



The Lighthouse



February 2014

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of



Charlotte Hasselbarth

Moderators Message

This is my last Moderator's message. It has been such an enriching, interesting experience. I have mixed feelings about my term being over. I have met a lot of women, gone a lot of places and made new friends. Every Gathering was the same, but different. Each place and format was unique, but there was an unmistakable Presbyterian Women's feel

to it.

I am happy to announce that Reverend Terri Cisse, the interim pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Levittown, in Levittown, N Y. is now the Chair Person for the Racial Ethnic Dialogs Design Team. Terri has also volunteered to be the Moderator for PW in the Presbytery of Long Island. We are very fortunate to have Terri's leadership skills in PWSNE.

Our relationship with the Brazilian Immigrant Center continues to deepen. After consulting with the Facilitating Committee, of the PWSNE Coordinating Team, I have signed a letter of support for the Domestic Worker's Bill of Rights, proposed by the Bridgeport, Connecticut Brazilian Immigrant Center, Inc. The proposal will be sent to Connecticut State Assembly.

One big concern I have is that we don't have Moderator elect, at this point. The Search Committee has been working at contacting people. I know very well how scary the prospect of being Moderator is. It took me a long time to agree. I had never been a PW In the Presbytery Moderator and I considered that a big disadvantage. I was pleasantly surprised how much people offered to help me.

I deeply appreciate the opportunity to be your Moderator. Thank you.

What's Inside

Vice Moderator's Message Synod Gathering July 2014	p. 2
Together in Service	p. 3
Horizon's Rep Column	p. 4
Book Review	p. 5
Global Exchange Funding	p. 6
Remittance Form for gifts	p. 7
Sisters Stand and Walk	p. 8
South Sudan Mission Calendar	p. 9
Evening Honoring MLK Jr.	p. 10
PW Women in the News	p. 11
From NNY	p. 11
Joan Coop Workshop	p. 11
NYC Hands on Mission Trip	p. 11
WNY PW PPG	p. 12
Appalachia Speaker	p. 12
Church World Service	p. 13
Ash Wednesday Retreat	p. 14
Horizon's Bible Study Event	p. 15
Palisades PWP Gathering	p. 16

Editor's Note: Next Lighthouse due Aug. 1. Hints, label subject in your email : "for Lighthouse Aug 14." You can tell me other info in body of email. Any changes you want please let me know. Sent pics of your PPGs

Your editor, Susan Silliman Smith.

Message from the Vice Moderator

JoAnn Burrell

Happy Year 2014!

We have adventures to experience and new things to learn July 18 – 20, 2014 at the PWSNE Triennial Gathering. Come and explore the concept of “Grace” given to us by our Lord and Savior. We will be looking at our theme “Grace Abounds” from 2 Corinthians 9:8. Our new venue is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, Silver Bay YMCA and Conference Center in upstate New York in the beautiful Adirondack Mountains on Lake George. Silver Bay’s motto is “Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future”. Let’s embrace the future with them. It is exciting that we (a non-profit organization) are supporting another non-profit organization by having our Triennial Gathering at their facility.

The picture below is the front of The Inn at Silver Bay. We have blocked the whole Inn for our Gathering. We have varying room rates that will fit into every budget. Room rates include six meals. **The Registration Booklet** is on our website (PWSNE.org), and a packet of 25 was given out to PWP Moderators in November 2013. If you have any question, do not hesitate to call me at 973-663-2287.

Carpool with your sisters, bring a flash light, and come on up. Encourage everyone to come to this Gathering to strengthen our presence and mission in the PCUSA, Synod of the NE, and in the world!

Jo Ann Burrell, Vice Moderator
PWSNE and Chair, 2014 PWSNE Gathering

Editor's Note: Silver Bay Website:
www.silverbay.org



From the Registrar: For the July Gathering at Silver Bay, rooms will be allotted based on a first registered, first assigned. So, if you want the best view, with the private bath, register EARLY! And, remember to mail the roommate registrations together.



Together in Service

Rita Hooper

I would like to call your attention to the trip to the Brethren Center in New Windsor Maryland beginning March 18. All the details are in the current Horizon magazine. This would be a great event to attend to get a better appreciation for what Church World Service does and what

happens to all those kits that the churches put together. This is both a learning and hands on work experience. Accommodations and meals are better than good too! Treat yourself, get your feet wet and try something new, you'll feel all the better for it.

There are several options you can take advantage of including a trip to DC to be a part of Ecumenical Advocacy Days which begins Friday March 21.

This year's theme is Jesus Weeps – Resisting Violence, Building Peace.

Today we too weep over the culture of violence that impacts our cities, our nations and families, which too often turn from ways of peace.

Nearly 3,000 children in the U.S. killed by guns each year;

A quarter of U.S. women experiencing domestic abuse at some point in their lives;

A decade of war, nearly 1,000 civilians killed by drones, and Pentagon spending dominating our federal budget over poverty protections, healthy job creation, economic revitalization and true international human security;

More than 45 million refugees worldwide uprooted from their homes by persecution and armed conflict; and Deadly conflicts over natural resources erupting around the world.

Peace in the Community- *So that all may live free from fear (Micah 4:4)*

Peace with the Earth - *So that life is sustained*

Peace in the Marketplace- *So that all may live with dignity*

Peace among the Peoples – *So that human lives are protected**

Through prayer, worship, speakers, workshops and advocacy training we will discover a faith-based vision for national policies that will "guide our feet into the path of peace" (Luke 1:79). As the Body of Christ today, we will take these messages of love, repentance, and hope with us as we go to Capitol Hill on Monday's Lobby Day to call for change in public policy and together lift up a holistic vision of a more just and peaceful world.

"if the way be clear," some of us from our Synod are planning on going to one or the other or both of these events. Check out EAD in the current issue of Horizons or google Ecumenical Advocacy Days for more info.

Please drop me a line and let me know what your locals are doing in the realm of Together in Service. Remember it's up to you to decide what you would like to do. twohoops2@juno.com. May God continue to richly bless all you do, Rita Hooper.

News from Horizons

Where Earth and Sea Meet the Sky

By Maxine G. Hunter

Where the earth and sea meet the sky or at least seem to meet the sky, is the horizon. Secondly, horizon is also defined as the limit of a person's mental perception, experience or interest. Basically, horizon in human terms is our outlook or perspective. How appropriate that our leaders at the time of unification just over 25 years ago selected the name **Horizons** for the publication that would promote and carry the word forward for the newly formed Presbyterian Women's organization.

Horizons is still carrying the word and carrying it very well. In my own personal view, what can be better than a magazine that carries featured articles like "Devotion" (inside front cover) and "Pages Worth Turning" (usually near the back of the magazine)? Another of my favorite things is the quality art work and photography embedded in quality articles: for example, Jan Amiss' photograph, "Ashes to Ashes" page 8, January/February 2014 **Horizons**. Lastly, I like the magazine's relatively new format where each issue lifts up a specific topic: for example, and because I like to sing, the 2013 November/December issue "Sing God's Praise". Indeed, this magazine has pages worth, not only turning, but reading.

I am sure you all have your own favorite "things" concerning **Horizons**. I can't even begin to guess what those are, but I might be close when I say the **Horizon Bible Studies** ranks right up there as a favorite. The 2014-2015 study will be **2 Corinthians**. We have two opportunities to attend workshops covering **2nd Corinthians**: 1) Stony Point Conference Center Bible Study Workshop, May 6-8 2014; and, 2) PWSNE Triennial Gathering, July 18-20, 2014 (Bible Study Learning Circles, July 19), Silver Bay YMCA Camp and Conference Center, Lake George, NY. Scholarships are available for both events. Go to www.pwsne.org and scroll down to first row of boxes. In the box to the far right is "Scholarships Available for PWSNE". Click on this box and it will take you the "Scholarship Available" information. For other information concerning the Stony Point Conference Center Bible Study and the Triennial Gathering in July, see flyers in this news letter or go to our website and click on "Calendar of Opportunities".

In closing, I have a challenge or a request to any or all poets out there in Lighthouse land: My challenge: write a poem or sort essay encompassing the phrase "where earth and sea meet the sky"...and in so doing lift up our lives in Presbyterian Women and perhaps our **Horizons** magazine in some way. Or just write an inspirational poem or essay with that phrase in mind. If you do write something and are willing to share, send it to me. I will use it, with permission, at our Triennial Gathering.

(Contact me: Maxine G. Hunter, huntermg@frontiernet.net)

Book Review

By Dotsie Shaw

“Celebratepeace”

The other day I was in a local church lobby and picked up a little book that I needed to read at just that right moment. **Celebratepeace**, by Louise Diamond, the founder of The Peace Company. The book contains 108 ways to create a more peaceful world. It's a book you can refer to from time to time and be lifted up!

Taken from the book:

“Inner peace is about connection with our true and natural self and a sense of being part of something larger – giving rise to serenity, balance, and a feeling of well-being.”

“Peace with others is about our connection with the open heart, sharing our humanness.”

“Peace in our communities and in the world requires a connection to respect for our multiple differences and the right of all people to justice, freedom and dignity.”

“Peace is a state of mind and a path of action. It is a concept, a goal, an experience, an ideal. It is personal and political, local and global. Above all, peace is a way of living.”

The 108 examples represent some very pithy, helpful, timely words for us to live by. One that struck me is the following:

#59:Forgive. *“Forgiveness is something that happens first in your own heart. You cannot force it. When you’re ready and willing to let go of your anger and desire for blame and revenge, then you can release yourself from that burden.”*

I’m sure all of us have had a small itch in our lives that continues to bind us from living more freely because we’ve been wronged in some way whether that’s reality or a figment of our imagination. The notion of forgiveness is far from our thinking.

“But, give it to God, to the earth, to the wind or water; give it up or put it down, using whatever language works for you. Breathe deeply. Feel the new space opening in your heart”.

I recommend **Celebratepeace** for your reading and spiritual consumption!

Love to you all, Dotsie Shaw

Magdalene Lewis Chosen for the 2014 Global Exchange

Magdalene Lewis has been selected to represent PW in the Synod of the Northeast in the Presbyterian Women's Global Exchange trip to the Caribbean in November 2014. Magdalene is from the New York City Presbytery.

Every three years, a group from Presbyterian Women travels to another part of the world to hear about the joys, concerns and ministries of other women, plus share faith stories. The following year, women from the same part of the world are invited to itinerate in synods and participate in the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women.

Future issues of *Horizons* magazine and the Presbyterian Women website www.pcusa.org/pw will have resources about the concerns the group will study and information on the organizations they will visit.

Magdalene will prepare for the trip, be taking 14 days out of her life to travel in the Caribbean in November 2014, speak throughout the Synod of the Northeast for 2 years following the experience, and participate in the 2015 Churchwide Gathering.

Your financial assistance is needed to cover the following costs:

- \$3,500.00 for the trip itself
- travel expenses for speaking engagements beyond what the inviting PW can provide
- hosting someone from the Caribbean during the 2 weeks prior to the 2015 Churchwide Gathering
- a round trip ticket for the visitor's transportation to and from the hosting Synod and the Churchwide Gathering
- provide financial assistance for Magdalene to attend the 2015 Churchwide Gathering, where she will have a role in interpreting the Global Exchange

PWSNE has created an account to collect donations for the program. Money can be sent from individuals, a PW in a congregation or a PW in the Presbytery. Send all donations to the PWSNE treasurer, Gloria Hanewald at 181 Sparrow Drive, Hamilton, NJ08690, by September 30, 2014, using the accompanying remittance form.

Magdalene's participation in the Global Exchange trip will enrich all of us and inspire future PW mission projects. Please schedule a presentation in the two years following her return. Try to cover her travel expenses when she visits your PW group and offer her an honorarium, which she will contribute to the PWSNE Global Exchange Fund. Magdalene's contact information is 718-528-1073 or maggielewis2@verizon.net.

Submitted by:

Charlotte Hasselbarth, Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST
REMITTANCE FORM**

Date: _____

Gifts to Designated Funds:

Global Exchange: \$ _____

Roma Development: \$ _____

USA Mission Experience: \$ _____

CWG Scholarship: \$ _____

Other: \$ _____

Presbytery _____

Treasurer _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/Email _____

Make check payable to: **PWSNE**

Send to: Gloria Hanewald

181 Sparrow Dr

Hamilton, NJ 08690

YOUR CHECK IS YOUR RECEIPT

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Hamilton, NJ 08690

YOUR CHECK IS YOUR RECEIPT

Sisters Stand and Walk Together

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN in the SYNOD of the NORTHEAST Rev. 3/6/13

SISTERS STAND AND WALK TOGETHER

Sisters Stand and Walk Together (SSWT) is a program of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast, designed to familiarize women who have immigrated from other countries to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and to Presbyterian Women. Women from many areas of the world have graduated from the program. Some have become leaders in Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast.

This program was formerly held at Stony Point Conference Center and included lectures, forums and workshops. A new approach is now being implemented. One of the original designers of the program, Anne Reynolds will visit groups to customize the *Sisters Stand and Walk Together* curriculum to a given group, congregation or presbytery. The curriculum is being revised so that it can be given out to interested groups.

The curriculum includes:

- History of the Racial Ethnic Dialogue in Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast
- Exposure to the Presbyterian Women's purpose, and structure
- How to develop and lead a Bible study using the *Horizons* Bible study as a resource
- How to plan a workshop
- How to conduct an ice breaker
- Cultural barrier issues
- Women's role in the church
- How to plan a worship service
- Introduction to resources (Book of Order, Book of Common Worship, Hymnals, periodicals, websites, etc.)

Contact Anne Reynolds at 315-823-2680 or areyn13365@juno.com to discuss adapting the *Sisters Stand and Walk Together* program to your group.

For questions contact:

- Rev. Denise Kennedy, past coordinator of SSWT at denisekenedy@gmail.com
- Charlotte Hasselbarth, Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast at chasselbarth@hotmail.com or 518-356-0637

Ministry in South Sudan

Date: Fri, 31 Jan 2014 01:31:47 -0800

From: elizabethnyawok@yahoo.com

Praise the Lord that we arrived Juba Yesterday with my husband. News are bad, many people lost their lives and all shops and houses are looted. no food in Malakal. Only those who ran to hospital, Churches and UN are better. Keep praying for South Sudan. Many children lost their mothers. Situation is bad, it was through our son who is Doctor, he went twice to Malakal taking medicines.

Thanks for your concern. god bless those who pray for us.
Elizabeth Nyawok Ajak

Dear friends of South Sudan,
First of all for those of you who missed our mission co-workers, Reverends Nancy and Shelvis Smith-Mather's interview on CNN here is the link to view it <http://mediacenter.tveyes.com/downloadgateway.aspx?UserID=186895&MDID=2758539&MDSeed=3177&Type=Media>

Secondly, I had opportunity to speak with PCOSS Moderator Rev. Peter Gai and General Secretary Rev. John Yor both yesterday and today. we can be so proud of our PCOSS leaders and their strong witness to the Gospel in what has been a horrific situation. Rev. Peter Gai talked about fulfilling his duty to protect the 2,000 Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk, Anuak and Murle individuals who have found refuge on the PCOSS compound by posting guard at the gate. He also shared that 4,000 individuals were being refuted at the Bam center (the site of the Women's Dept., Nile Theological College and Giffen Institute of Theology.) PCOSS's commitment to providing shelter without regard to ethnicity in a town where a political conflict took on ethnic dimensions was a very brave position to take. These are testimonies to the power of the Gospel of reconciliation and reminds me of similar stories we heard out of Rwanda a couple of decades ago.

The good news is that both yesterday and today the moderator and general Secretary both reported that Malakal and Doleib Hill are both calm, that the fighting has stopped. They are continuing to hear some gunfire outside of the city. Please continue to pray for all to honor the ceasefire and for God to comfort this deeply traumatized population.

In Christ,

Debbie

Rev. Debbie Braaksma
Africa Area Coordinator

Presbyterian Church USA 100 Witherspoon St.
Louisville, KY debbie.braaksma@pcusa.org

PW Events Coming around the Synod

Date 2014	Event	Place
Mar. 5	Hudson River PWP Retreat	Stony Pt. Center
Mar. 8	NYC & LI Hispanic/Latin PWP	TBA
TBA	Susquehanna Valley Retreat	TBA
Apr. 12	Albany PWP Spring gathering	Mayfield PC
Apr. 26	NYC & LI Hispanic Retreat	TBA
Apr. 26	Monmouth PW Spring Gathering	Manasquan PC
Apr. 26	Newark PWP Spring Gathering	Elmwood UPC, East Orange, NJ
Apr. 29	West Jersey PWP	First PC Cranford, NJ
TBA	Susquehanna Spring Gathering	TBA
May 2-3	NNE PWP Gathering	Retreat Center, Alfred, ME
May 6-8	Horizon's Bible Study	Stony Pt. Center
May 7	Geneva Spring Tea	Newark, NY
May 17	Newark PWP training day	Newark Pres. Center, Bloomfield, NJ
May 17	NNY PWP Spring Gathering	Potsdam PC
July 18-20	Triennial Gathering of PWSNE	Silver Bay YMCA Center
Sept. 10	Geneva Fall Gathering	Camp Whitman
Oct. 11	Newark Fall Gathering	TBA
Nov. 4-20	PW Global Exchange	Caribbean area
Nov. 15	NYC & LI Hispanic/Latin Leadership Conference	TBA
2015		
June 18-22	Churchwide Gathering	Minneapolis, MN

For further information contact the PW sponsoring event. Event planners, please remember to send your updates to Abbie Slaman, [webservant at slamans@optonline.net](mailto:webservant@slamans@optonline.net).

Editor's Note: Annual reports will be due the middle of Jan beginning in 2015.

An Evening Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.

When Martin Luther King stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963 to deliver his famous, "I Have a Dream" speech, he envisioned all races and religions coming together and living in peace. Those words, so eloquently spoken, made us think and inspired us to be better people and slowly, over time, change did happen.

Reverend Terry Yvette Cissé, the interim Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church of Levittown, had a similar dream of bringing different religions and races to her church, and on Sunday her dream came true. Reverends from around Long Island, along with a Cantor, joined together in a musical celebration. "I am excited to bring this event to Levittown," Rev. Cissé said. "It's a wonderful opportunity to bring this community together and celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela."

Looking stunning in a gold robe and turban from Timbuktu, where she once lived, Rev. Cissé opened the services with a greeting to the members of the church, many who had come not just locally but from out of state, some from her previous parish in New Jersey. Reverend Mark Tammen, The General Presbyter of Long Island, opened with a prayer and then Universal Praise filled the church with song as part of a musical presentation. After the sign of peace the PAYLA psalmists wowed the audience with more musical renditions, getting the entire church to join in.

The PAYLA project — short for the Pan African Youth Leadership Academy — was created to engage youth in New York and Long Island metropolitan areas from racial ethnic and at risk communities with leadership potential to take an active role in bringing about change in their communities. This project is endorsed by the presbyteries of New York City and Long Island. The funds collected during the service will go toward a camp they are sending students to this summer who will be part of the PAYLA project.



Pictured (l-r) Rev. Eddie Justino, Rev. Yvonne Collie Pendleton, Rev. Cissé, Elder Jermaine Ofori, Elder David Ofori, Rev. Wanda Hughes, (sitting l-r) Cantor Steve Sher, Rev. James Rea, and Rev. Mark Tammen.

After readings from a Hebrew and Greek bible, Cantor Steve Sher of Temple B'nai Torah of Wantagh sang for the congregation. Liturgical dancers from Christ First Presbyterian of Hempstead, First Presbyterian Church Freeport and the Presbyterian Church of Sweet Hollow, Melville danced throughout the church and engaged the audience members.

Elder Jermaine Ofori Bethel with the House of Yahweh in the Bronx spoke of the life of Martin Luther King. He talked of the legacy that MLK left behind by planting the seeds of hope. Levittown started as a potato farm until WWII ended and the returning GI's needed affordable housing. William Levitt, a Jewish builder, created Levittown with the stipulation that the homes only be sold to white Christians, no Jews, no blacks. Fast forward to 2014 and here was a multiracial, religious congregation celebrating Martin Luther King's life, led by their Rev. Cissé a Princeton, Harvard educated woman and the first African American woman to lead the parish.

Rev. Cissé admits that it has not always been easy but she is very optimistic and hopeful about the community and has many more programs to bring different cultures together. The evening ended with more musical renditions, one from a diminutive Kyetah Bryant with a powerful voice that got everyone up on their feet, clapping and singing. The energy and joy in the church were palpable. As the music ended, the words of Martin Luther King echoed in the church as guests filed out hugging one another. Wiping tears from her eyes Rev. Wanda Hughes, Pastor, Presbyterian Church of Garden City had this comment, "I thought it was a joyful celebration. It was inspired and wonderful for all of us to get together and celebrate. I was deeply touched and moved."

This Article was reprinted from the Levittown Tribune, Jan. 23, 2014. Sent by Rev. Terri Cissé

PW Women in the News

Maggie Lewis, our PWSNE Rep. to PW CCT has send out the *Quarterly New for PW Leaders*. On page 3 is an article written by **Emily Castine**, the PWP Moderator for PW in the Presbytery of Northern NY. It describes how they celebrated the 25th Anniversary of PW and how they hosted and shared ideas with 32 women from Canada at their Fall Gathering.

On page 41 of the Jan./Feb. edition of *Horizon's*, **Lori Evans**, the PWP Moderator in the Presbytery of Monmouth is mentioned regarding her efforts to bring awareness of *Orange Days*, which is part of the UN's campaign to end violence against women. On the 25 th of each month people are asked to wear **orange** to raise awareness about violence against women. Lori's efforts culminated in her arranging to "**paint her town orange**". She lives in Lakewood, NJ.

Editor's Note: You can download the newsletter at: www.pcusa.org/resource/pw-quarterly-newsletter-firs-quarter-2014/

From NNY PW

CHAZY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

***Our Chazy Presbyterian Women will lead a World Day of Prayer Service on Friday, March 7, 2014. Also, the women are working on the production of a new church cookbook. We hope it will be ready for sale by mid-fall, just in time to be the perfect Christmas gift! It will include old, treasured recipes from members who have passed on, the best recipes from the current members, and new concoctions from families and friends.

Along with expecting to host a Northern NY Presbytery meeting in the spring, CPW will hold its 5th Mother's Day Tea and Silent Auction on May 10, 2014. This is a very popular event and encourages wonderful fellowship, faith sharing, and features delicious fare!

In June, our group will be catering a wedding. Working on projects as these mentioned above is the glue that keeps us united. Sharing new experiences in our work for the betterment of our Church near and far, keeps us motivated. Our meetings start with prayer and devotions. We support each other in and out of the church environment. What a cherished group of women! Em Castine, Moderator, CPW (cont. next column)

"Web of Creative Expression": Your Help is needed.

At our PWSNE Triennial Gathering, July 18-20, 2014, a "Web of Creative Expression", led by Joan Coop, is an interactive plenary event planned for Saturday evening, July 19. Are you a poet or writer? Do you play an instrument such as violin or flute? Do you write music? Do you sing? Do you create fiber art: for example, quilts, knitting, needlepoint, etc.? Are you a painter, photographer, or graphic artist? If so, please consider taking an active part in this program. At this time, if you are planning on attending the Gathering and would like to actively take part in creating our "Web of Creative Expression" ---such as displaying a painting; reading one of your poems; singing a song; etc.--- Joan Coop would very much like to hear from you, but it is not a requirement. As Joan said, "We'll need to be flexible in planning, even up to the day of the event." However, a little advanced notice would be nice. Contact Joan: (207) 729-4798 or Coop-Joan@comcast.net

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF NORTHERN NY PRESBYTERY

***The PW of PNNY will hold its Coordinating Meeting at the Ponderosa Restaurant in Potsdam on Saturday, April 12, 2014, at 10 AM.

The Spring Gathering of this group will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2014, at 10 AM. Speaker: Rita Hooper. Place: Potsdam Presbyterian Church
Em Castine, Moderator

Hands on Mission Trip

Presbyterian Women USA and PW Presbytery of New York City are working with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to organize a mission trip to New York City. This will be a hands-on work experience to assist with the rebuilding of New York as a result of the damage inflicted by Hurricane Sandy. Lodging and meals will be provided by First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica, Queens. The cost of this mission trip is \$220 per person, including six nights accommodations, all meals, a group leader and administrative costs. For an application/registration form, contact Kathy Reeves at katharine.reeves@pcusa.org or 888.728.7228.

Western NY PW PPG Report

Western New York PPG gathered at the Presbyterian Church in Seneca Falls, NY, on Sept. 28, 2013 for a program with the theme "Journey of Change." The subtitle of the theme was "What are we next to do?" a quote from Elizabeth Cady Stanton after the first convention for women's rights held in Seneca Falls in 1848. The Women's Rights National Historic Park is located in Seneca Falls and a visit there concluded the day's program.

Topics discussed during the morning included:

A Biblical Journey. "An Abiding Hope," Rev. Nancy Meehan Yao, Pastor, Hammondsport Presbyterian church and co-Pastor, Hector Presbyterian Church, reviewing the PW Bible Study.

The Women's Rights Journey. Park Ranger, Women's Rights National Historical Park with an overview of the women's rights movement in upstate New York in mid 19th century.

The Presbyterian Women's Journey. "Where We've Been...Where We're Going," Mary Cook Jorgenson, Moderator of the PW Churchwide Coordinating Team.

A Personal Journey. "A Global Calling," Rev. Leah Ntuala, Pastor of the host church on her experience in the Peace Corps.

Worship with the theme "Where Do We Go from Here?" led by Rev. Rev. Leslie Latham, Pastor, United Presbyterian Church of Randolph with the Motion Choir from Kenmore Presbyterian Church

The pulpit of the Seneca Falls Church is the one that Alice Paul spoke from on July 20, 1923 (the 75th anniversary of the Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls) when she presented the first draft of the Equal Rights Amendment, which she had authored. It was a thrill to stand where the early advocates for women's rights has stood and reflect on what their work has to say to us.

Appalachian Bookings

Rita Hooper

I was your representative to the USA Mission Experience and have a presentation for you to hear.

I'm available to present at your Gatherings on my trip to Appalachia on behalf of Presbyterian Women last summer. I would like to have a few bookings for early summer/late spring in New England. If you can combine with a neighboring PW or within a day or 2 of each other, it cuts the costs for the groups involved.

I will be in Newton Presbytery NJ April 26, Watertown, NY May 14, May 17 at Potsdam, NY and June 3 Yardville NJ. I live near Syracuse NY. Give me a call – and book a date. 315-706-3564 or twohoops2@juno.com

I hope you have been reading about our trip and what some of our gals have been doing. Ah... there's nothing like being a Presbyterian Woman to see the Country/World!

From Hudson River PWP

ASH WEDNESDAY RETREAT 2014 is scheduled for **MARCH 5TH** at STONY POINT CENTER. This year we are pleased to have as our leader the

Rev. Dr. Betty Griffin. Her theme for the day is *STAYING the COURSE: Growing Stronger in the Seasons of Life*.

The program begins with registration at 10:00 a.m. (See Flyer)

Members of the Coordinating Team were in agreement regarding our annual disbursement of funds for worthy mission projects. This year we were able to support each of the four PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS of the Hudson River Presbytery with gifts of \$500 to each group:

CROSS-CULTURAL NETWORK, PRESBYTERY HUNGER PROGRAM, PRESBYTERY PRISON PARTNERSHIP, & NYACK PROJECT

In addition, we sent a check for \$500 to the OSSINING PRISON MINISTRY, to aid in their continuing care of prisoners' families that visit at Sing-Sing. This organization has been a helpful, caring support for the past 30 years. Marion Farrell, of the First Presbyterian Church of Ossining, is our contact person. As in the past, we again supported both CAMP HOLMES and STONY POINT.

Church World Service Is in Need of Kits

Help Church World Service replenish its supply of CWS School Kits! Please spread the word! Church World Service is down to its last few cartons of CWS School Kits, and those have all been spoken for. Our warehouses need replenishing so that we can meet pending requests and future needs.

CWS School Kits give basic tools for learning to children in impoverished schools, refugee camps and other difficult settings, including children whose families had lost everything to floods, tornados and other disasters.

Last year, 57,730 CWS School Kits were provided for children in need in the United States and overseas. U.S. recipients included young survivors of flash floods in Garrett, Ky.; the Black Forest fires in Colorado, and Superstorm Sandy in Jamaica, N.Y. International recipients included Syrian school children forced to flee their homes by the civil war, and supplies-strapped Cameroonian and Romanian school children.

Here is everywhere CWS Kits and Blankets were sent in 2013: <http://www.cwsglobal.org/get-involved/kits/kit-reports.html>

Here are the specifics of assembling the kits. <http://www.cwsglobal.org/get-involved/kits/school-kits.html>

Please contact your Regional Church World Service Office for Spring Dates of pick up. Most of Upstate New York is in April. Other regions may have different dates.

Get together your Circle or your congregation and put together school kits. You might have someone in your group who can make the bags and then have a packing party.

Don't forget to download the Annual Report so people can see where their kit gifts are going.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN of the Hudson River Presbytery



ASH WEDNESDAY RETREAT at Stony Point Center - Auditorium

March 5, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. Betty Griffin, Leader

STAYING the COURSE
Growing Stronger in the Seasons of Life

Plan to bring a sandwich. Beverage, fruit & cookies will be provided.

Call or e-mail to RSVP
Faye Bishop (845) 256-5599 (fayejay413@yahoo.com)

STONY POINT CENTER

MAY 6-8, 2014

Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians The 2014-2015 Horizons Bible Study

By Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty

We are living in a world that is experiencing a great deal of change. Change is not new, but there are distinctive contours to the change we experience today. Technological advance, easy access to information and cross-border trade, encounters with peoples representing a variety of perspectives and cultures—all are aspects of our daily lives. We can't avoid seeing the divisions forged between nature and neighbor and between neighbor and neighbor along lines of race, class, gender, and nation. These divisions impact representation in decision-making bodies, support exploitation of the earth, exacerbate the unequal distribution of wealth, and limit access for many to the natural resources we all need to survive and flourish.

Paul's writings are some of the most influential in Christianity. Therefore, revisiting the struggles Paul faced and the authenticity and integrity of his theology is an essential task for churches today. Paul, like us, wrestled with and questioned his faith as he tried to live as authentically as possible in an ancient world that was also in the midst of a great deal of change. What can we learn from revisiting 2 Corinthians and considering Paul's theology and ideas as they relate to the context of our time?

This study invites us all to ask whether or not we understood Paul's writings clearly in the past and to read his letter afresh in light of the issues we face in our time. Concepts of shared partnership, power in weakness, healing, reconciliation, love, and a new apostolate all figure prominently in Elizabeth's reading of Paul. She hopes that you will find your own voices among the larger community of interpreters as we discern together the meaning of these ancient passages for the world in which we live today.

For More Information on
Stony Point Center and or to register online,
please visit us at

WWW.STONYPPOINTCENTER.ORG

Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty is chair of the Department of Theology at Bellarmine University, associate professor of theology, and co-director of BU's program in peace studies. Her passions in life and her research interests include social gospel theology, Christianity and social justice, wealth inequalities, poverty issues, and theologies from the margins. She makes her home in Louisville with Lee, Garrison, Emme and Baci.



The full program, which offers additional resources, begins with dinner on TUESDAY and ends with lunch on THURSDAY. Registration and check-in will start on Tuesday at 4:00 PM.

Cost covers meals and a shared double room in one of our lodges. If requested at registration, a limited number of private rooms may be available at an additional cost.

Call 845-786-5674 x107 with any questions. For transportation information email our Transportation Coordinator at transportation@stonypointcenter.org

REGISTER ONLINE AT
www.stonypointcenter.org/horizons

STONY POINT CENTER Conference Registration Form Horizon Bible Study May 6-8, 2014 (Tue-Thu)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____
☐ Female ☐ Male Roommate Request: _____

We will assign a roommate unless you provide a roommate request. Each person must fill out a separate registration form.

Special Dietary or Other Needs: _____

Rates include program fee of \$40.

☐ Double Occupancy \$260.00
☐ Single Occupancy \$380.00
(if available)
☐ Commuter \$130.00
☐ Add'l Overnight Stay \$ 90.00

Dates: Early Arrival _____
Late Departure _____

☐ Transportation \$ _____
☐ Donation for Program \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

☐ Check enclosed (payable to Stony Point Center)

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

OR REGISTER ONLINE AT
www.stonypointcenter.org/horizons



**Come join us for
GROUP DISCUSSIONS
WORSHIP & LUNCH**



Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Marianne Rhebergen
Transitional Leader,
Presbytery of the Palisades
Theme:
"Bread for the Journey"
Isaiah 55: 1-2



Saturday, April 5, 2014

9:15 am - 1:30 pm

West Milford Presbyterian Church
1452 Union Valley Road, West Milford, NJ 07480
973-728-3081 wmpchurch@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Janet Macgregor-Williams

REGISTRATION \$2

Lunch will be provided