



February 2016

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the North Northeast

### **Moderators Message**



Quiet Space and Prayer: A Need in Leadership (Of course we know this. Don't we?)

"...whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not

**Maxine Hunter** 

come to be served, but to serve..." Mark 10: 43-45

"Be still, and know that I am God..." Psalm 47: 10a

In 1802 the poet William Wordsworth wrote: "The world is too much with us; late and soon. Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers; ... For this, for everything, we are out of tune; It moves us not."

Do these words strike a chord with you? –"the world is too much with us....and for everything we are out of tune, it moves us not..." -Sometime in our leadership roles in our families, our churches and Presbyterian Women— where we PW's gladly accepted the role of servant leader—our lives seem to fill up with more stuff to do. We find ourselves rushing from one project to another feeling that it all must be accomplished immediately. Sometimes we feel we are bouncing from one new thing to another. Many times we find ourselves rushing about like the white rabbit in Alice in Wonderland, looking at our watches. Well, not a watch. It is probably our I-pads, or whatever electronic gizmos we have come to rely, saying, "I am late, I'm late for a very important date." Or are we constantly connected by texting? This rushing, this constant "doing" is not necessarily rushing and doing bad things---it is just that it appears to be as the poet says--- "that for everything we are out of tune." Does

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Editor's Note: The next issue of the Lighthouse will be published in August. While the deadline is August 1st for articles and photos to be submitted, it is important we try to stick to that deadline. I did make a few exceptions this time for late articles but there are events in the Fall that need to be seen immediately. This time no exceptions will be granted. Enter Lighthouse articles in subject line. (SSS)

<sup>+</sup> The Lighthouse 2

Moderator's message continued

#### this feel familiar?

Oh, yes, you and I are here to serve. But to reenergize for leadership in whatever form it takes, we need to give ourselves permission to slow down, and stop our "dithering about schedules" and do as the Psalmist implored: "Be still and know that I am God ... " We do this because we know God comes to us in "a still small voice" (1 Kings: 19: 11-13) not in chaos and turbulence. God calls us to quiet places for prayer and meditation. Jesus in his most human form exemplified this by removing himself from the crowds and the disciples to pray to God his Father. In Mark we hear: "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed": and in Matthew 6: 6, Jesus teaches us how to pray: "But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father..."

How, you may ask do I slow down? The answer: By taking one moment at a time. Do not make this moment a task. Just make it a moment. Begin simply. Perhaps look out the window at the snow or the winter birds or the people walking by on the sidewalk and say, "Thank you God for this day." Amen

Slowing our lives down...Being Still...is good for our souls....it is good for relationships with others...it is good for us in our various leadership roles... and above all, it is good for our relationship with God.

God bless, Maxine G. Hunter Moderator, PWSNE

(This article was inspired by one of the Leadership topics I received from a CT member)

# From vice Moderator Su-ling Lai

SAVE THE DATE! August 18- August 19 . 2017

Presbyterian Women Synod of the Northeast 2017 Gathering

at the Desmond Hotel Conference Center 660 Albany Shaker Road Albany, New York 12211

### My First PW Meeting

When I arrived the chairs were moved, The table abandoned along with pad and pen... And why those ladies were Sitting, in a circle and looking into eyes.

I had come with overnight bag and Bible Why I'd read the instructions twice, To be sure I got it just right since I'm new To this

Oh my! I said out loud, and all eyes faced Me with my agenda and pad, and stuttering voice

Now that hurt my timidity, so I turned And looked behind me for a newcomer.

No, it was me they showed an outpouring Of love in so many varieties I'd arrived to stay awhile at My first PW meeting

By Rhonda Collins Sánchez. Feb. 2016

### MY LIFE AS A PRESBYTERIAN WOMAN

By Joanne Schnaudt

**Note:** As most of you know, I have been asking long time Presbyterian Women to tell their stories or to tell of a time that was special to them. So far, everyone I have asked has responded and shared their wonderful memories of our organization. It is easy to get caught up in day to day busy-ness and forget why we became part of this group to begin with. Joanne Schnaudt wrote the following. As you enjoy it, think of special times you have had with PW and the memories it has given to you to cherish. Sandy Grillo

#### MY LIFE AS A PRESBYTERIAN WOMAN

When Sandy asked me to write a memory of my time with PW, I realized that I have so many wonderful memories that I could write a book. I have always said that Synod PW was my favorite level of PW. I have met so many wonderful women over the years and we share many happy and funny memories.

Remember when we met at the Desmond for our November CT meetings? The cost of the meals was quite high, so I called the diner across the street to see what they had to offer for a group of about 24 women. We ended up marching 24 women across 8 lanes of highway, in the rain and darkness, to our dinner. The dinner was okay, but when they brought the dessert, it was dry, hard donuts left from Halloween dinners the week before. I have not been allowed to live that one down. And my good friend Ginnie Miller made sure I paid for this the following year, when she brought a dried up donut to the meeting. The server at the Desmond passed out delicious éclair desserts to everyone and then gave me a plate with the dried up donut on it.

There's another story about how I became being called The Popina. And how about our slogan of "You are Good Stuff!" Pat Tuttle will remember the bald-headed groom at the Desmond wedding. I fondly remember my Dad making needlepoint lighthouse bookmarks for the members of the CT, when he was in his 90's.

I think my fondest memory was the time I was visiting a church in the Synod, and as I walked in the door to the meeting, a woman came toward me with this look of sheer delight on her face. She said, "I am SO honored to meet you!" I turned around to look behind me to see who she was talking to. This emphasizes the esteem and honor of holding the position of Moderator. I am grateful that I had the opportunity to serve the women in the Northeast. We are leaders in PW and in the church. May God continue to bless everyone as we continue serving in Christ's ministry.

Love and blessings, Joanne

# Synod Representative to the Churchwide Coordinating Team

By Charlotte Hasslebarth

One of my favorite parts of being on the Churchwide Coordinating Team is my involvement in the Creative Ministries Offering Committee. We received 15 Birthday Offering applications to review for our Sept. '15 meeting. I am always amazed at the connectional aspect of PCUSA and specifically PW. Of the 15 applications, I knew two of the grant writers and one of the projects that applied for a grant was endorsed by PW in a church I knew of.

It really makes me happy when a group connected with someone I know gets chosen. Two such applications were chosen. Linda Werts, the PW Moderator in Park Presbyterian Church in Newark, N.Y. wrote the application for *Majok-Keen Girls Primary School* a project of *Building Minds in South Sudan*. Her photo from a previous trip to the *Ajong Primary School* in South Sudan was on the first page of the application. I had met Linda several times at PW events and didn't know of he r personal involvement in this mission. I was so pleased when this project was one of those chosen.

One of the other projects chosen was *Heartland 180*, a new program in the Kansas City area, which serves boys and girls between the ages of 11 and 17 who have been involved in the criminal justice system. There was a letter of endorsement from Presbyterian Women in Grace Covenant Church in Overland Park, Kansas. A woman who grew up in my church and baby-sat for my children, Jennifer Deitz Battaglioli is a member of that PW group. Jennifer's mother keeps me informed about what is going on at her daughter's church.

I am getting ready for the Feb. '16 Creative Ministries Offering Committee Meeting. We have 71 applications for the next group of Thank Offering grants. I have been assigned 8 to study closely. I will be having a phone call meeting with the grant writers of "my applications"

### Hosts needed for PW women attending the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

#### Do you live within commuting distance of mid -Town Manhattan?

To keep cost down for the PW women who are part of the PCUSA delegation or want to attend as a non-delegate, the PW Churchwide Coordinating Team is looking for people to host women in their homes. Some women will stay for the entire program and some will attend only part of it. The guest will need a bed of her own and breakfast each day. This year's United Nations Commission on the Status of Women is meeting from March 14–24.

Each guest will sign a form releasing PW, Inc., and PC (USA) from legal responsibility.

If you can help, contact Wanda Beauman, Vice Moderator for Justice and Peace on the Churchwide Coordinating Team at <a href="wbclerk5@gmail.com">wbclerk5@gmail.com</a>.

### Light Up South Sudan Initiative

Linda Werts

Once I received the news of the Birthday Offering Grant award for the school in Mayen Abun, South Sudan my thoughts turned to the girls and how to establish a connection between them and folks here in upstate New York. I decided to launch the "Light Up South Sudan" initiative. Homes are circular mud huts called "tuculs" and no one in this rural village has access to electricity. Outside fires are the only source of lighting at night. I had been introduced to these small, inflatable solar lanterns by a fellow Rotarian and thought these would allow the girls to study at night, provide for their safety, and connect donors from New York to this rural village in South Sudan. Presbyterian Women of the Geneva Presbytery is supporting the initiative by purchasing the lanterns which are then sold for a \$10 donation and distributed to girls attending the "under tree" Majok-Keen Girls' School. I took 120 lanterns with me and I could have distributed 1000 more. **Everyone** now wants one!

If any of you or your PW group would like to purchase a lantern to be donated on the 2017 Trip here are the details: Mail checks <u>made out to PW Geneva Presbytery</u> to Linda Werts, Park Presbyterian Church, 110 Maple Court, Newark, New York 14513. In this small way you become connected to sisters both here in your own Synod of the Northeast and help pass on God's love and the light of Christ to sisters around the world.

Linda Werts, PW Moderator, Park Presbyterian Church



Picture of a sunlight lantern.

Editor's note: photo of girls with lanterns seen on page

### Majok-Keen Girls' School, Mayen Abun, South Sudan

A popular song begins "It only takes a spark to get a fire going." *My "spark"* of interest in South Sudan began by a quirk of circumstance when I met Elizabeth Nyawak Ajak at the 2012 PW Churchwide Gathering in Orlando. I was intrigued by her story, her solo journey from Jonglei State, South Sudan to Orlando, Florida, and her new nation, the Republic of South Sudan, which I had not even heard of. I returned home and "Google searched" for everything I could learn about South Sudan. And learn much I did!

South Sudan...a landlocked, oil rich country in East Africa, about the geographic size of Texas...gained its independence from Sudan in 2011, it has a population of about 8 million mostly Christian people. Its literacy rate of 27% is perhaps the lowest in the world. Maternal mortality is the highest in the world and infant mortality ranks in the bottom 10%. Life expectancy is around 50 years. 2% of roads are paved and only 1% of the population has access to electricity. It is a food insecure country served by all the world's food aid programs. There are 10 states. (currently 28 states). Warrap State where BMISS is building schools is stable. But three other states have political and tribal unrest. Our PC USA Mission Agency has several mission workers placed throughout the country and serving needs for education, reconciliation and trauma healing, and health.

Three weeks later I met Sebastian Maroundit, one of the "Lost Boys" resettled in Rochester, New York and co-founder of Building Minds in South Sudan (BMISS) who was speaking to my Rotary Club. **My** 

South Sudan continued

"spark" was kindled by Sebastian's passion and dedication to providing educational opportunities for rural villages and promoting gender equity by enabling access to education for girls. I enthusiastically told him I wanted to accompany him on his next trip. That would be December of 2013. (Yes, I was there when the war broke out!) Three of us joined him to celebrate the completion of the 2nd stage of construction at Ajong Primary School in Mayen Abun - an addition of four classrooms. The school would now have eight classrooms for over 800 students.

My responsibility on the trip was to introduce the "Pads for Girls" initiative. Women of Temple Sinai in Rochester had made sets of washable, reusable sanitary pads for girls attending the school. I took two suitcases full of pads, sewing notions donated by our Park Church quilters, and enough money to purchase a sewing machine. It would become a "cottage industry" with mothers sewing pads and other clothing items. We take for granted our sanitary supplies which are so readily available. But in parts of Africa girls who are menstruating miss one week of school each month because there are no sanitary supplies.

**My "spark" flamed** as I integrated with the women and got to know their daughters. I heard the requests to Sebastian for a girls only school. I learned that for cultural reasons many Dinka parents would not send their daughters to a coed school. That is a partial reason that today in Dinka agrarian and cattle herding communities it is more common for a girl to die in childbirth than to become literate.

Sebastian promised them that his next school would be a "brick and mortar" replacement of the "under tree" Majok-Keen School for girls. I silently promised to help him. Those promises became reality when the 2016 Birthday Offering Grant application which I submitted was awarded the \$124,000 to partially fund the six classrooms, community room and sets of latrines that BMISS will construct over the next two years.

Groundbreaking took place on January 8th of this year and I was privileged to be a part of the celebration. *My "spark" was aglow* in the enthusiasm of the day! I wish others could have been with me. I am so thankful to Presbyterian Women PC USA for its commitment to the Building Minds in South Sudan project. The grant was highly praised by community leaders, students, Sebastian Maroundit and myself. Improving the lives of girls through education is a wonderful accomplishment and will bring hope and a brighter future to each of the girls. One woman speaker made a comment bringing laughter to all. "Educating our daughters will bring great benefits to our community...and for those who need cows, an educated daughter will bring 100 cows (in marriage)!" I couldn't think of a better way to spend my day! Dancing, speeches, presentation of solar lanterns and shared fellowship with truly appreciative sisters and brothers will remain in my memories forever.

South Sudan continues to be a country with many challenges, not the least of which are its political instabilities, its reliance on "kinship" bonds, and its absence of infrastructure. But its greatest assets, in my view, are its people, who I find have great vision, resilience and strong Christian faith. Just as the song goes...

It only takes a spark to get a fire going.

And soon all those around can warm up to its glowing;

That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it.

South Sudan continued

You'll spread that love to everyone. You'll want to pass it on.

I thank God everyday that I am called to Presbyterian Women and their mission and ministry and have an opportunity to spread God's love and open people's hearts to the needs of others.

Linda Werts PW Moderator, Park Presbyterian Church Newark, NY





Linda can be contacted for presentations at lwerts@aol.com.

# Distribution of \$10,000Grant

At the October 2015 CT meeting, a proposal was made by the Finance Committee to take \$10,000 from the PWSNE budget to make a one time grant available. The CT voted to accept this proposal. A deadline of December 31, 2015 was given for grant requests. The CT gave the Finance Committee the authority to make decisions as to where the grant(s) would be distributed.

The following is the decision of the Committee: \$4,000 - New Creation Family Life Center which is being initiated at the Iglesia Presbiteriana Nuevas Fronteras - with letter

-- and requesting feedback from Elizabeth Lorenzo, the Clerk of Session / or an article how the grant helped to be printed in a future issue of Lighthouse.

\$1,000 - to assist youth in the P.R. attend the Triennium 2016 - *Iglesia Presbiteriana de Hato Rey* 

\$1,000 - Johnsonburg Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center <a href="http://www.campjburg.org/">http://www.campjburg.org/</a>
with a letter indicating the funds are dedicated to assisting youth campers this year (2016)

\$4,000 - split evenly among the remaining Campsites in Synod of Northeast with a designation for use for youth campers this year - which are:

Camp at the Eastward (http://www.campattheeastward.org/)
Camps Whitman on Seneca Lake (http://campwhitman.org/)
Camp Wilmot (http://www.campwilmot.org/)
Holmes Presbyterian Camp and Conference Center (http://www.holmescamp.org/)
Vanderkamp (http://www.vk.org/wpsite/)

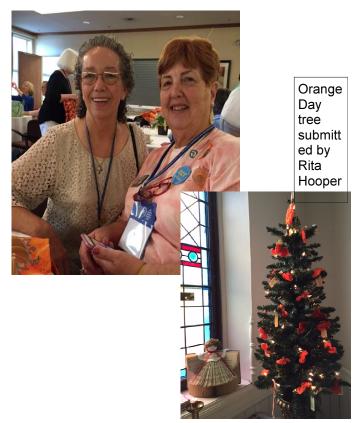
Respectfully and happily submitted, Rhonda Sanchez - Moderator of PWSNE Finance Committee

# Judy Parsons to Leap Frog the Thruway Trail

Yes, mark your calendars. The Fall Gatherings will be here sooner than you think. The Presbyteries along the I-90 corridor of New York State are sharing a speaker for the week: Judith Persons – Churchwide Vice Moderator for Mission Relations. She will be having her own version of Leap Frog from east to west on the New York State Thruway (I-90) beginning in Albany and ending in Buffalo.

Plans are still in the making. Judy will start at Albany PWP on September 13th and end at Western NY PWP on September 17th. Utica and Cayuga Syracuse will host her at their annual Vanderkamp Retreat on Sept. 14-15. She will leave there to go to Geneva PWP then WNY PWP. Logistics still in the works. Presbyteries outside this area are being invited to attend any of the other PWP gatherings. Look for the updated info coming in the next LIGHTHOUSE.

This event will be enlightening for everyone.



# Orange Day is the 25th of Each Month

Witness and act for an end to violence against women and girls

On the 25th of each month – join people around the world in observing an Orange Day to work for an end to violence against women and girls.

Orange Day is part of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon's campaign <u>UNITE to End Violence against Women</u>. PW supports the UNITE campaign by urging women to wear orange on Orange Days, the 25th of every month, to participate in activities that raise awareness and to advocate for an end to violence against women. Orange polo shirts with the PW logo are available from Presbyterian Distribution Service; check out the PW Boutique or go to <a href="https://www.pcusa.org/store">www.pcusa.org/store</a> and type "orange" in the search box.

This past Christmas, Women's Ministries at First United Church of Fulton (NY) decorated an "Orange Tree" to raise awareness and work for an end to violence against women and girls. Everyone entering church during the month of December was encouraged to take an orange bow from the tree and wear it on the 25th.

Rita Hooper found a simple crochet pattern on the net for a bow; they are fun to do as you sit in a meeting or in front of the TV - I can do 20 in an evening! She's happy to share it with her PW sisters. Ch 5 - join to beginning chain to form a circle Ch 4

work to crochet into circle 5 times ch 4

5 Tb in circle

ch 4 - slip stitch into circle ring - leave an 8" tail and pull through

Wrap tail around the center to cover the hole - wrap the yarn next to each other several times (rather than over each other)- pull the yarn under the backside stands and tie off. Attach safety pin and note to Wear Orange on the 25th Raise awareness of Violence against Women and Girls. If you would like to make a butterfly - just add a single crochet between each the crochet!

I've had fun passing these out at non-church meetings and while visiting other churches.

### **Sisters Stand and Walk Together**

Sisters Stand and Walk Together (SSWT) a program of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast (PWSNE) established in 2004, was first designed to familiarize new immigrant women to the Presbyterian Church (USA) and to Presbyterian Women. Women from many areas of the world have graduated from the program. Some of have become leaders in Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast and Presbyterian Women PCUSA as well as expanding their role in Presbyterian Church USA by attending and graduating from a theological seminary. As the program evolved PWSNE discovered that the SSWT program not only had a value for immigrant women, but had value for all Presbyterian Women at congregational and Presbytery levels. With this in mind, the approach and curriculum were revised and introduced October 2015 at PWSNE's annual meeting. A packet outlining the revised curriculum is now available for a given group at either the congregational or presbytery level.

The packet contains an introduction to the revised SSWT program and suggested steps to follow in organizing for your specific group. There is an outline for each suggested topic. Financial support from PWSNE for this program is available.

The suggested curriculum:

**Getting Acquainted** 

How to Plan a Worship Service

**Book of Order** 

PW Manual (for each participant)

How to Plan a Workshop

Separation of Church and State (optional)

Resource Ctrs(prayer/music/movement)

Education (Personality/Communications Skills: seek a professional facilitator)

Putting it all together

Taking it to the World...How? What else is missing? (the next step)

To obtain a copy of the revised curriculum and session outline packet contact Maxine G. Hunter, Moderator of PWSNE, at huntermg@frontiernet.net

Want help starting and adapting this program? Contact:

Anne Reynolds, author of program, at 315-823-2680 or areyn13365@juno.com

Rev. Denise Kennedy, past coordinator of SSWT at denisekenedy@gmail.com

Charlotte Hasselbarth, PWSNE Representative (2014-2017) to the Churchwide Coordinating Team at chasselbarth@hotmail.com

Maxine G. Hunter, PWSNE Moderator, (2014-2017) at huntermg@frontiernet.net

# **PWSNE supports PCUSA Young Adult Volunteers**

For the past several years PWSNE has supported some of the Young Adult Volunteers thru our mission giving. We contact each year's group of YAV's from our Synod and provide them with an application if they wish to apply for a grant from our fund. In 2014-15 we were able to give monetary assistance to Emily Oshinskie Elizabeth Zupp, Hannah Mills, Jennifer Hyde and Kyle Coombs. This year (2015-16) we have provided assistance to Ambar Sabino (Lord's Lighthouse Ministry-Hollywood, CA), Danielle Hauer (Disaster Assistance Center-Little Rock AK), Leif Frymire (Whitehouse Presbyterian & Peace Players Int'l-Belfast N. Ireland) and Emily Stevens (Habitat For Humanity, Ashville NC). The following are thank you notes we have received:

From Amber: "Amen, thank you so much Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the NE for your contribution, support and prayers. I appreciate it so much from the bottom of my heart. Blessings to you all!"

From Danielle: "Wonderful! Thank you so much"

From Leif: "I would like to express my gratitude for accepting my application to your grant. Your choosing to support my year of service here means a great deal to me. Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I still have 7 months to go! I'm left wondering where the last 4 went! If you have not, please follow my blog so that you may stay up to date on my year of service.."

From Emily: "Thank you so much for this grant! My site and I greatly appreciate your generous donation."

More information about the YAV program and a blog from each of these YAV's can be found on the PCUSA web site:

http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/yav

# Nominees Sought for Churchwide

The CW Search Committee has begun searching for the Presbyterian Women Churchwide Coordinating Team for 2018-2021. As your regional rep on the CW Search team, I need **your** prayers and help as I search for talented women to serve in leadership and supportive positions. Do you know a woman who stands out as you have worked with her in your congregation, presbytery, or synod? If so, would you please share their names with me by November 1, 2016.

I am searching for leaders who are members of a PCUSA church and who support the purpose of Presbyterian Women and who can work well as a team player, and who will have the time and energy required to travel and participate. The positions which need to be filled are:

Moderator

Vice Moderator, Justice and Peace

Vice Moderator, Mission Relations

Board Secretary/Historian

Finance Committee Chair

Moderator of the Search Committee

Five Regional Search Committee Members

Six Racial Ethnic Members-at-Large representing

African American

Asian American

Hispanic/Latino American

Korean American

Middle East American

Native American

Two Young Women At-Large (one racial-ethnic)

New Immigrant Woman (in the USA for 3 years or less)

Prayerfully consider this request. I know it will take extra time and thought on your part, but I cannot do my work without your help and prayers. CW is committed to a diverse leadership team; therefore, we urge you to consider our racial ethnic sisters when searching for prospective nominees.

Please send your recommendations to Rita Hooper, 210 Meadowbrook Circle, Fulton, NY 13069 by November 1, 2016, using the Endorsement for Nomination Form\*. If you have questions my phone is 315-706-3564 – twohoops2@juno.com

Your endorsements are truly appreciated. Thank you and may God Bless You!

\*See page: 18-19 for the form.

# SPOWTS Project at Munadevi Lower Secondary School at Namadi Ward no 9. Pasavar VDC, Ramechaap District.

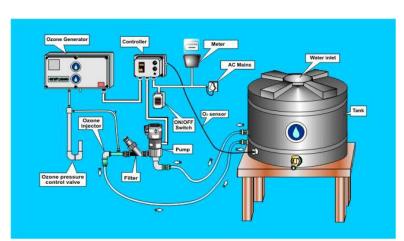
Munadevi Lower Secondary School in Namadi village of Pasavar VDC of Ramachaap district. The April 2015 earthquake has destroyed many houses, school and health centers in Ramechaap District among those Munadevi School was also one of them. For some time the school was closed as the main building (The tin roof building below the green roof building) was destroyed. Though it looks solid from the top but all the walls of the buildings has been fallen apart. The roof was standing as it was built on metal poles. For few months, the school was run on a shed which was built as an emergency response so that the children will come in the school and can share their feelings and experience among them and teachers which will help to reduce the fear and other psychological effect they had experienced during the earthquake. And about two months later one new school building with four rooms was built (green color building) with the support from South Korea. Now the school is running both in the shed and a newly constructed building in full fledge with about 170 children and in the old school building the school teachers are using one room as a school office. The technical committee who has visited the school has said that the walls which are cracked in the middle should be taken out and a new wall has to be build which will be about a meter height and should wooden wall will disaster. rest he be safe during such

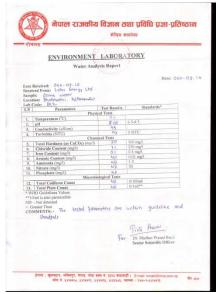


We have chosen this school as a first recipient of SPOWTS project in the district. The reason to support this particular school is we want to provide a clean ozanated drinking water to the children as a small gift from Bodhivastu Foundation and Himalayan Light Foundation. It's also a contribution on remaking the school with added new equipment which concerns the health of the children and

SPOWTS cont.

surrounding villagers. The current water system the school is connected has no filter system and the children along with the villagers are drinking it for quiet sometime. This SPOWTS System will help to filter ozonate and provide clean drinking water which we believe will help to reduce some percent of water borne diseases. This is our first project in school with clean ozonated water and we hope in future we can add few more systems in other schools, health centers and community buildings in the days to come.





In this unit there will be a complete water treatment system as shown in the pictures with another four 80 watt solar panels, two 105 AH Trojan batteries will be installed so that the power required to run the system can be generated by the solar system which is safe, environment friendly and easy to install.

Here are the list of some benefits from ozone:

Municipal water companies have used ozone technology to treat large quantities of water for many years because of its effectiveness in purifying and conditioning water.

Triple O Systems has selected ozone technology for use in treating well/tank water because of its unique properties to:

- 1. Kill bacteria on contact thousands of times faster than chlorine or bromine.
- Kill virus on contact.
- 3. Kill algae spores, fungus, mold and yeast spores.
- 4. Precipitate heavy metals.
- 5. Remove excess iron, manganese, and sulfur by a process known as micro-flocculation, thus conditioning the water naturally without chemical additives.
- 6. Remove color and odor, leaving a fresh, healthy bouquet.
- 7. Reduce scale build-up on equipment such as pipes and water heaters, and staining of showers, sinks, bathtubs and toilets.

Ozone leaves no residue, it's only by-product is pure oxygen.

We are quite hopeful that the installation of SPOWTS system will help to reduce water borne diseases in the children and will be healthy and regular in the school.

Some pictures of Munadevi School.

SPOWTS cont.





# Cayuga-Syracuse PWP takes the Road

Cayuga-Syracuse PWP decided to try another tactic instead of meeting at a church, we took it on the road. People were invited to share in looking at a couple area missions not necessarily sponsored by PW but missions we could be involved in.

Our first stop was to the Food Bank of Central New York. Our group was divided up in to two groups for the tour of the warehouse. Here we learned how food items are sorted and how they are distributed. The warehouse is huge and has various departments.

The warehouse also has a sample setup and sample list of what people can choose from at their respective centers.

After that we had lunch at the Spaghetti Warehouse in Syracuse. Here we got acquainted with new people who attended and also took up our Thank offering and regular offering.

Next up was a visit to one of our

Presbytery's 1001 New Worshiping communities. This is Isaiah's Table. Isaiah's Table was formed by members of the former First Presbyterian Church United in downtown Syracuse. The church was meeting in an older congregation with a very large building. The congregation was dwindling but still wanted to find a mission to be viable in the downtown area. After much prayer and study a group of about 15 founded their new worshiping community calling it Isaiah's Table.

The church building was sold to another faith congregation who agreed to let Isaiah's Table meet in the back of the church building.

Isaiah's Table meets on Saturday mornings, starting with breakfast for persons in the community and then they are invited to stay for worship. In summer weather they sometimes distribute fresh foods to the neighborhood. Other times they might provide other items like tube socks to persons in need. They also have a Bible Study on Wednesday evenings. Isaiah's Table hosts a Food Pantry as well.

The ministry is a challenge at times and also rewarding. See we can spread God's Word in many ways which don't have to be traditional. You might want to take a look at their website: Isaiahstable.org.

We ended our tour at this site.

## **PWSNE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

		As of 12/31/2015				ANNUAL
					12/31/2014	INCOME
FINANCIAL P	POSITION					
CUECKING AC	COLINIT					
CHECKING AC		¢	14 545 40		¢44 700 0E	
	Bank Balance	\$	14,545.42		\$11,729.05	
	Deposit in Transit		040.40		(424.00)	
	Outstanding Checks	¢	-849.13	¢	(131.96)	
	Check Book Balance	\$	13,696.29	\$	11,597.09	
MONEY MARKE	ET/SAVINGS ACCOUNT					
	Beginning Balance		10,484.29	\$	10,479.05	
	Deposits				-	
	Transfers					
	Earned Income		5.24		5.24	
	Ending Balance	\$	10,489.53	\$	10,484.29	
NEW COVENA	NT MUTUAL FUNDSBALANCED GROWTH FUND					
	Beginning Balance	\$	43,111.97		\$38,064.58	
	Deposits - opened 5/14/13			\$	-	
	Change in Market Value	\$	(337.22)		\$5,047.39	
	Earned Income-pd quarterly-Dir Dep Oper Acct		,			\$2,850.11
	Ending Balance	\$	42,774.75		\$43,111.97	
NEW COVENA	NT MUTUAL FUNDS-BALANCED INCOME FUND					
	Beginning Balance	\$	38,410.63	\$	40,023.00	
	Deposits - opened 5/14/13			\$	-	
	Change in Market Value	\$	(2,659.06)	\$	(1,612.37)	
	Earned Income-Reinvested					
	Ending Balance	\$	35,751.57	\$	38,410.63	
TOTAL:		\$	102,712.14	\$	103,603.98	
	Fund Balances:	\$	65,768.76	\$	70,615.24	
Available Fu	nds:	\$	36,943.38	\$	32,988.74	

### **DESIGNATED FUNDS AS OF 12/31/2015**

			Beg 1/1/2015	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	 <u>Balance</u>
LEADERS	SHIP					
	Leadership D	evelopment	\$ 8,995.55	\$ 323.92	\$ (500.00)	\$ 8,819.47
	Racial Ethnic	Dialogue	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
	Sisters Stand	& Walk Together	\$ 8,981.23	\$ -		\$ 8,981.23
MISSION						
	Global Exchai	nge	\$ 9,758.09	\$ 455.00	\$ (912.49)	\$ 9,300.60
	USA Mission	Experience	\$ 2,006.40	\$ 636.00		\$ 2,642.40
	Young Adult \	/olunteer	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 900.00	\$ (2,800.00)	\$ 1,600.00
SCHOLAF	RSHIP					
	CW Gatherin	g-Scholarship	\$ 4,147.25	\$ 100.00	\$ (3,000.00)	\$ 1,247.25
	CW Gatherin	g-Moderator	\$ 960.00	\$ 850.00	\$ (969.91)	\$ 840.09
	CW Gatherin	g-Intern	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00
	Seminarian C	ordination Exam	\$ 585.00	\$ 10.00	\$ (175.00)	\$ 420.00
	Synod Event	Scholarship Fund	\$ 8,063.17			\$ 8,063.17
PASS THI	ROUGH					
	CW Gatherin	g-Breakfast		\$ 1,408.00	\$ (1,472.00)	\$ (64.00)
	Moderator Git				,	,
	Misc			\$ 250.00	\$ (250.00)	\$ -
	Totals		\$70,615.24	\$ 4,982.92	\$ (9,579.40)	\$ 65,768.76

### **News Around PWSNE**

#### From Palisades PWP:

Dates for 2016: Saturday, March 19, 2016; CT meeting

Saturday, April 23, 2016 "Spring Gathering"

Saturday, May 21, 2016; CT meeting

Aug. 27, 2016; CT meeting

Saturday, September 17, 2016 "Fall Retreat"

#### From Monmoth PWP:

Monmouth is having the spring gathering April 9th. Held at Toms river pc The theme: family promise: speaker Patty cash Director of interfaith hospitality Network, ocean county. Also doing The over view of the new Bible study Rev David cotton. We are also having Communion together © Lori

Valatie Presbyterian Women are small in number so we include the entire congregation in our Birthday and Thank Offering collections. We have tried various activities in addition to using the bulletin covers, inserts, and informational materials provided by PW. One of the more successful with regard to contributions was a breakfast prior to church with a free will offering basket on the table. We have also provided a cupcake with candle for each person as they leave the Sunday service. The third event was a pot luck lunch after church where everyone had to sit at a table with others born in the same month. We decorated the tables with items representative of a holiday falling in that month. This split up families and got people visiting with those they didn't know well. If your group has done similar activities for either offering, please let me know and I will pass on the information to other groups. Rosalie Hemingway, Together in Service Coordinator

Geneva Presbytery
Presbyterian Women - 2016
Year for Focus on Mission

### **Spring Gathering**

Saturday, April 30
First Presbyterian, Elmira
"Birthday Offering" & "Global Mission Partners"
"Ferncliff Mission Trip Report"
Worship led by Teaching Elder Katherine Griffis
Birthday Offering Dedication
Officers Rededication, Budget Presented

#### **Fall Gathering**

Friday, September 16
The Presbyterian Church in Geneva
Judith Persons, Churchwide Vice Moderator
for Missions Relations, Keynote
"Mission Matters"
Communion Worship led by Teaching Elder Deborah Lind-Schmitz
Thank Offering Dedication

#### From Newark PWP:

Newark had an event on February 20, 2016 - Winter Gathering/Leadership Training - Old First Presbyterian Church, Newark Theme "S.O.S.-Sharing Our Strengths"; Keynote Speaker, Ruling Elder Anita Wright

April 23, 2016 - Spring Gathering, Old First Presbyterian Church, Newark

May 14, 2016 - Training Day for New Officers - Presbytery Center, Newark

October 15, 2016 - Fall Gathering, TBA

Thank you!

Peace, Lorraine Cuffie

# Networkers Dinner Held at Mayfield PWC in Albany PWP

Mayfield Central Church Presbyterian Women have enjoyed entertaining the PW groups of the Albany Presbytery for thirteen years now with a NetWorkers Dinner. When our minister Rev. Bonnie Orth came to us fourteen years ago she was the Regional Coordinator for the Presbyterian Church's NetWorkers Safe Motherhood Project and Malaria Prevention Program and had spent time in India while she was in seminary. With her help and encouragement we put together an Indian dinner with entertainment and costumes, and invited women from other churches to attend. Instead of charging we took up a freewill donation which was sent to Networkers. At the dinner we also found some people to take nets home to sew.

When we started the dinners the Networkers organization provided mosquito nets for use in countries with a malaria problem to be sewn and sent to women and children in these countries. Rev. Bonnie was the distributor of these nets for a good part of the country and the church garage (while surrounded by piles of snow that had to be climbed over) was filled with mosquito nets. Since then they have found it more productive to provide the women of these countries, mostly in Africa and Asia, with sewing machines and the supplies needed to complete them themselves.

After the earthquake in Haiti we decided to add Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to our donation recipients and had a Haitian meal. About this time we had had a devastating fire that destroyed our 150-year plus building and we received help from PDA with rebuilding our building, so it was meaningful to us in many ways. Then we had a Japanese meal after the tsunami and a midwest meal after devastating tornadoes. Over the years meals at the NetWorkers dinners have been from Africa, Asia and the Americas. This last fall we decided it was time to have a Scottish dinner and celebrate our Presbyterian roots.

Our church has also been going to Guatemala regularly and Rev. Bonnie is on the board of CEDEPCA in Guatemala, an organization which is involved in education and combating domestic violence in Guatemala. In the past several years we have split the money raised between PDA and CEDEPCA. In 2015 we sent \$345.00 to each group.

Even though we do not now directly support NetWorkers we kept the name, since one of the things we do at the dinners is network with the other PW groups in attendance. We look forward to this every year and it gets many of our members involved who do not come to our regular meetings.

Submitted by Christine Dahl 661-5800 or cedahl@juno.com

# Peace and Justice: Flint Water Crisis

The Office of Public Witness, Compassion, Peace, and Justice Ministries is asking persons to call their senators at 877-429-0678 to urge them to support public funding for replacement of the Flint water system.

In addition prayers for the families who are affected by this source of lead coming in their water systems.

# Message from our Webservant

Sue Liu

Ever since the October PW Gathering, I have been working on a new website design. With the assistance of Kathy Nealand, we have moved over as much as possible into the old website and added some new features to the new website. The new site is now active and can be accessed at <a href="http://pwsne.org/">http://pwsne.org/</a>. On your first visit, please consider clicking the "Like Our Blog" on the bottom right of the website. If you do, you will receive e-mail notifications whenever something new is added. This is a good way to keep informed of what is going on across our Synod.

Further, we would love to have information about PW in your Presbytery. We can post:

A link to your website.

A link to your Facebook Page

Your current newsletter

A general information document

Events you are hosting that are open to the Synod

Pictures of women in action (by permission from those in the picture).

Please send what you would like posted to **Sue Liu** at <a href="mailto:shuchen2003@msn.com">shuchen2003@msn.com</a> and Kathy
Nealand at <a href="mailto:revnealand05@gmail.com">revnealand05@gmail.com</a>

### Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Churchwide Coordinating Team, 2015-2018 Nomination Form

Please recommend only the Presbyterian Woman with **whom you have consulted** and who is willing to serve, if nominated and elected. Nominations are accepted and processed as they are received. The final acceptance date is to be postmarked or submitted by November 1, 2016.

Please type or print!

Information below is the information needed about the nominee Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephones \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_ Synod \_\_\_\_ Moderator Vice Moderator, Justice & Peace Vice Moderator, Mission Relations Board Secretary/Historian Finance Committee Chair Search Committee Moderator Search Committee Member Member-At-Large \_\_\_\_ African American \_\_\_ Asian American \_\_\_ Hispanic/Latina American \_\_\_ Korean American \_\_\_ Middle East American Native American Young Woman-2 (1 Racial Ethnic) New Immigrant Woman

The Information below is about the **Person Submitting** the Nomination

# Title/position in Presbyterian Women or PCUSA \_\_\_\_\_ Address Telephones \_\_\_\_\_ How do you know the nominee \_\_\_\_\_ The Nominee would be an asset to the Churchwide Coordinating because \_\_\_\_\_\_ The Nominee's ability to interact and communicate in a group setting\_\_\_\_\_

All Nomination Forms must be postmarked or submitted by no later than August 1, 2016 – earlier would be preferred!

The Search Committee Thanks You!

Please submit to the Search Committee member in your Region.

# The 2016-2017 Horizons Bible Study at Stony Point Center May 10-12, 2016 Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes By Judy Yates Siker

The study this year is "a journey to expand our understanding of who Jesus was and is—a journey of our hearts and our minds, a journey that we will take together. We are invited to be good conversation partners along the way, sharing with one another how we see and experience the various lenses and how these different perspectives impact our understanding of who Jesus is."

Each of the study's nine lessons explores the question "Who is Jesus?" through an particular theological lens. Who is Jesus—

- 1—according to Mark? Jesus is God's son.
- 2—according to Matthew? Jesus is the long-awaited Jewish messiah whose teachings open the kingdom of heaven to us here and now.
- 3—according to Luke? Rejected by his how—Jesus, prophet of God, turns the world upside down with his teachings.
- 4—according to John? Jesus and God are one.
- **5—according to Paul?** Paul stresses the centrality of the cross of Christ in understanding true discipleship.
- 6—according to Hebrews? Believers are to hold fast to their faith in times of adversity, and remain firm in their commitment to Jesus who has run this race before them and now reigns in glory with God.
- 7—according to the noncanocical gospels? Early Christians held diverse views of who Jesus was.
- 8—according to the other Abrahamic faiths? Judaism, Christianity, and Islam understand Jesus in very different ways.
- 9—according to contemporary cultural interpretations? Each of us who reads the New Testament is an interpreter of the text; how we interpret depends in part on who we are.



Judy Yates Siker teaches New Testament at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California. She is a teaching elder in the PC(USA) and can be found preaching, teaching, and leading spiritual retreats for churches throughout northern and southern California. She has published work geared both to the church and the

academy. Her most recent publication is a curriculum titled *Images of Israel*, a work co-authored for North American Christian with the Shalom Harman Institute of Jerusalem and the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding at Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA.

The full program begins with dinner on TUESDAY and ends with lunch on THURSDAY, Registration and check-in with start on Tuesday at 4:00 PM. Cost covers meals and 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.

## STONY POINT CENTER Conference Registration Form Horizon Bible Study May 10-12, 2016 (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 \$50.  Double Occupancy \$260.00 Single Occupancy \$390.00 (if available) Commuter \$160.00 Add'l Overnight Stay \$ 90.00
Dates: Early Arrival
Late Departure
□ Transportation \$
<ul> <li>□ Donation for Program \$</li></ul>
Expiration Date
Signature

### OR REGISTER ONLINE AT

www.stonypointcenter.org/horizons





## Presbyterian Women in Synod of Northeast "Springs of flowing water bringing new life to women"

# **Leadership Enhancement Retreat Annual Business Meeting**

Save these dates: August 26 & 27, 2016

Time: 2 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Place:
Christ the King Spiritual Center's
Kings Inn
575 Burton Road
Greenwich, NY 12834

Registration By: August 1, 2016

For information concerning the facility and its location visit their web-site: www.ctkcenter.org

When plans are firm concerning the program, these details will sent out to you.

### PWSNE Leadership Retreat 2016 Registration Form Please Register on or before: August 1, 2016 Firm

Name	
Address	
Phone	
Email	
Presbytery Church	
Emergency Contact	
Roommate (if none listed, we will assign)	
PWP Moderator or voting repPWSNE CT member Guest	
PWSNE pays room (based on double occupancy) & board for PWP Moderator or voting and PWSNE CT member	g representative
Special needs (dietary, mobility, etc.)	
\$40 Program Fee requested from all participants	
\$100 Double Occupancy Overnight Fee(Moderator/voting rep, CT members exempt)	
\$130 Single Occupancy Overnight Fee	
(Space is very limited)	
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 <a href="mailto:danvirginiac@aol.com">danvirginiac@aol.com</a> or 585-526-5841.

Directions to Christ the King Conference Center, 575 Burton Road, Greenwich, NY (518-692-9550) [www.ctkcenter.org], please refer to Google Maps or MapQuest.

Transportation from train/bus station assistance is in the development stage. Let us know if you are in need.