

The Lighthouse



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

February 2017

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the North Northeast

Moderators Message



Maxine Hunter

The Tilted Candle

"The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against the house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock." **Matthew 7: 25**

The white candle in the center left sanctuary window was tilted yet again. I walked over, lifted up the glass chimney around the candle and straightened it. Even though we do not burn the window candles that often in January and February, I made sure it was firmly standing up right in the candlestick. I replaced the glass chimney. I then continued to the choir location and sat down. I looked over at the candle. It was beginning to tilt. After choir practice I straightened it again, and proceeded to the choir room to get ready for church. As the choir moved into the sanctuary I looked over at the center window. Sure enough, the candle was slowly tilting to the right. By the end of the service the candle resembled the Leaning Tower of Pisa. After church I straightened it again.

This little ritual has been part of my Sunday worship experience since Epiphany Sunday. Was I annoyed by the ever tilting candle? No, I was mostly curious as to why it continued to slowly but surely tilt even though I would straighten it with all due force and with all the candle straightening techniques I had ever learned. In fact my first effort was not good and resulted in breaking the candle in half. I thought the new candle would solve the problem. It didn't. That is when I decided there was a message hidden in this mundane every Sunday occurrence: the ever tilting candle illustrated that all things need a firm base. It also illustrated that a firm foundation needs a good support surrounding it. As mentioned above it was when I removed the protective glass chimney that propped up the leaning candle that it fell and broke. (continued to p. 2)

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Editor's note:

The next issue of the Lighthouse will be published in August. Please try to have your info in by August 1st.

In addition it is hoped we will hear from PWPs. What are you doing? Ideas to share and photos, etc.

Moderator's message continued

As Presbyterian Women you know the importance of the foundation of faith that our organization is built on. Yes, indeed, Jesus is the Rock!! The women who lead, guide and follow the workings of Presbyterian Women are the important base and protective support for the organization. But has there been a time when you felt like that tilted candle? A time when you tilted because of discouragement, feelings of being alone or engulfed under crashing waves of too much work and too little time to do it. It is times like this that you and I gain support from each other. The type of support we give each other should be gentle and patient. I say gentle and patient, because when I hurriedly removed the chimney on which the titling candle was supported the candle crashed and broke. So be gentle and patience with each other. Don't worry when you or someone you rely on tilts away again and yet again. But keep the faith and once again, with patience, gently help yourself and others to once again stand straight on the firm foundation.

Dear God, we know Jesus is the Rock of our salvation, and that he never fails us. As sisters together in your household of faith, Jesus is the firm foundation on which we stand. In Jesus name we pray. Amen

God Bless,
Maxine

From vice Moderator Su-ling Lai



The Design Team 2017 for the PWSNE Triennial Gathering in August. From left to right in the photo are: Gail Banks, Virginia Champlin, Su-Ling Lai, Jane Kim and ShuChen Liu.

The Brochure Info on the Gathering is included in this edition of the Lighthouse. Hope you will all attend. Gathering Brochure on pages 17-22.

Su-Ling would like everyone to know the efforts and writing of the article on page 2 of the Brochure as well as the entire planning was a joint effort by all. She also wished people to know that Charlotte Hasselbarth should be credited for most of the article as she was the original author.

Historian

Sandy Grillo

If you come across pictures from the 2015 gathering, I would still like them. I asked several times without response. You did say while there that you would send some, especially of the installation since I was having camera problems. This will be my last request but would appreciate your help.

Sandy Grillo

Global Exchange 2017

MaxineHunter

It is my pleasure to announce that Virginia Champlin of the Geneva PWP and our PWSNE Registrar is our representative /delegate on the 2017 Global Exchange, "Building Bridges of Understanding", to Indonesia, September 12-29, 2017.

PWSNE has pledged to support, as we have done with all our past Global Exchange and USA Mission Experience delegates, financially our representative. The cost per person is \$5000. This cost will cover the cost of transportation from home to Indonesia and back, accommodations, meals, local transportation and entrance fees if museum visits are included in the program. Also included in the cost are the expenses involved with bringing some of our Indonesian sisters to the 2018 Churchwide Gathering in Louisville. It is also hoped that we here in PWSNE will consider hosting an Indonesian guest to itinerate in our Synod the week prior to the Gathering. Also, consider that you are helping to pay an honorarium for a future program for your PWP.

I have included an active link to our remittance form. Fill in your pledge on Global Exchange line, and send as indicated on the form, to our PWSNE treasurer, Gloria Hanewald. I hope that each PWP can contribute, to the best of their ability, to our Global Exchange Fund.

YAV Thank You Notes

Gloria,
Thanks so much for all the support for our YAVs years, it's so appreciated! We have had a great year so far, and are looking forward to the rest of the year! Thank you again, looking forward to keeping you updated on the rest of our time in Boston! - Boston Young Adult Volunteers
Chris IvyBee
NelleH Kaye McCormick MaryKate



YAVs Continued



To the PWSNE,

I cannot thank you enough for your support of my second year as a Young Adult Volunteer. Your gift is truly appreciated, and I'm not sure where I'd be without your support these past two years. Knowing the PWSNE is supporting me, and many others over the years, gives me great strength and encouragement.

Please continue to keep all the YAVs in your prayers as we reach the mid point in our year of service.

Many Blessings,
Linda Werts

Updates from Linda Werts on Mission Projects

Hello all... I am as pleased as Judy and Mary to know that the four classrooms will be able to be completed this year! Thank you to all of you who helped move the check along to BMISS! Praise and thanks to Presbyterian Women's Creative Ministries Committee for recognizing the importance of education for girls in one rural community in South Sudan! To God be the glory and may blessings flow to the girls and teachers who will be improving their lives through education... Linda Werts

Just can't help but share some other good news. My team and I returned last night from Mexico where we have signed a covenant with Living Waters for the World and the Presbyterian Mission Church of El Sinai in Limones, Mexico to install a LWW purified water plant to provide safe and clean water to the community of around 5000 people. We at Park Presbyterian Church, Newark, are looking forward to our shared ministry with our beloved brothers and sisters of El Sinai.

Blessings to all

Linda Werts

PWSNE Representative to the Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT)

Charlotte Hassellbarth

This is my last article as your Representative to the CCT. It has been a very rewarding experience. A third of the Synod Representatives start their terms each year. There are sixteen Representatives: eight changing each year. In the course of my term, I have gotten to know over thirty different women pretty well. Since the term of our Representative changes between Churchwide Trienniums, I have related with two different CCT's.

Last September, I was asked to go on the Administration Committee, so I resigned from the Funds Development and Communications Committee. The reason for this request was that, Carol Winkler; the Churchwide Moderator felt my experience in PW in the Presbytery of Albany would be helpful. We had gone through a successful revitalization process. I miss hearing the advance information on future editions of *Horizons* magazine and Bible studies. While on the Administration Committee, one of the things that I have enjoyed learning is the legal implications of organizational decisions.

One big change in our CCT meetings will occur this March. We're having our meeting via videoconference. We will meet for two, two-hour segments. All of us have had a one on one tutorial from Stephanie Morris, our Multimedia Associate/Designer on the PW staff. Almost all of the committee meetings that would have met face to face, during a regular CCT meeting will meet via conference call, prior to this videoconference. However, my Creative Ministries Offering Committee will meet face to face in Louisville in February. We will be choosing the 2017 Thank Offering recipients. There are ninety-three applications and it was felt that it would be too difficult to come to consensus, without being in the same room. We have however, streamlined the process and the meeting will be shorter than usual.

Of these ninety-three Thank Offering applications, four national and one international are from the Synod of the Northeast.

Reflections of 2016 USA Mission Trip

Rhonda Sanchez

This past September, I travelled to California to participate in the USA Mission Experience trip “Out of the Darkness ... into the Light.” A group of slightly more than 20 women went to San Francisco Bay Area where we met with and spoke to representatives of various agencies and programs. For slightly over a week, we discussed the long-reaching effects of human trafficking and domestic violence; the inequality that women still face; the plight of the refugee and other immigrants (with and without legal documentation); the status of women both in the United States and the rest of the world; and the challenge of homelessness and abuse for both the city-dweller and the migrant farmer.

The process of escaping from human trafficking and domestic violence, can leave the survivor without a place to live in a foreign place. The understandings of self-sufficiency and comfort are often stripped from the person leaving despair, hopelessness, and sometimes an unhealthy dependence on people and/or substances. The biggest question can be “what now?” What can I do, where can I live, who will help me, how do I survive?

Two of the most comprehensive programs that have met survivors at the what now stage are Glide and Camaron House. Glide is based in the Glide Memorial United Methodist Church. Glide’s largest program confronts the issue of food insecurity. It provides 3 meals per day, 364 days per year without asking questions or preparing surveys. In San Francisco, the rising cost of living, the reality of homelessness, and the survivors who have left inappropriate living situations can all lead a person to face hunger. Glide has developed a network of programs to face the needs that lead to food insecurity and embraces the individuals served including housing referral, employment skills and training, and domestic violence counseling (to name a few). Glide is facing the need, not making expectations; however, should a participant wish to engage in the process of self-sufficiency, the support is available.

Cameron House, initially named the Chinese Presbyterian Mission, began over 100 years ago. In its history, Cameron House has been a safe house and assisted close to 3,000 flee from slavery and human trafficking. Some have ranged in age from 3 to 18. Aside from providing safety, Cameron has also provided the services so that the participants can learn the skills to become viable members of society. Today, Cameron offers programs such as Asian Domestic Violence, a Bilingual Afterschool Program, summer day camp, Chinese Cancer Support Group, Community Resources and Adult Education Program, food pantry, Summer Leadership Development program, assisting youths and families in a myriad of ways.

We met with representatives of Mercy Without Borders, Bay Area Anti Trafficking Coalition, Alameda County Family Justice Center, Puente, San Francisco SafeHouse, San Francisco Domestic Violence Consortium, Emmaus House, Immanuel House and the San Francisco Department of Status of Women. The common thread with all of them was the compassion that mixed with an action plan to help the plight of victims. It is not good enough to just pray for a better tomorrow. For example, Mercy Without Borders travels to Haiti, the Sudan and Nicaragua to teach – provide education to women and children, one of the most important tools that lead to transformation. The San Francisco Dept. of Status of Women was established after San Francisco became the first city in

our nation to develop a program tailored after the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Puente and Immanuel House work with immigrants and refugees helping and guiding them through the legal process of obtaining citizenship. Emmaus House is a modern-day place of refuge for families leaving domestic violence.

In summary, I believe that many of us have reached a level of comfort. For most of us, we have all our basic needs met and can at times enjoy some level of luxury, through vacations, entertainment and other activities. We donate funds and at times volunteer in mission, local or abroad. But, do we help. Do we take up a cause and persist? Do we reach out and have a long-term relationship until a change happens? I believe that we have been called to act for such a time as this. To work alongside women, men and youth that would like to see a better tomorrow, who are looking for the assistance and resources that will prepare them to make a difference in our world, or simply survive and thrive.

I challenge you to find a group, agency, or person that is dealing with the societal cruelties and that you will walk with, pray with, and work with to bring about change.

A few pictures from the trip are shown here:



Cameron House



USA Mission Participants

Judy Persons Trip Down The Thruway Trail

In September PWPs across the Thruway area had a wonderful opportunity to host Judy Persons, Churchwide Vice Moderator for Mission Relationships. Judy shared with all the groups similar topics to get us to think about.

She started her visit in Albany Presbytery and ending in Western NY Presbytery. We do have some accounts of her trip and photos. However, Western NY was having difficulty sending a photo to the editor.

Photo below shows Judy arriving at Albany Airport.



One photo from the PWP Meeting in Schoharie in the Albany PWP

Judy Persons arrived in Albany on Mon. Sept. 12. She stayed over night with Charlotte Hasselbarth. On Tues. they drove to Schoharie, NY for the PW in the Presbytery of Albany Fall Gathering hosted by PW in Schoharie United Presbyterian Church. This is a church that was severely damaged by flooding from Hurricane Irene in 2011. A member of its PW group showed pictures in the terrible damage. The program was in the renovated Christian Education building. We were taken on a tour of the renovated Sanctuary.

Our first speaker was Felicia Kollie-Gambles from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Albany, which supports Hope Mission School in Liberia, where Felicia is from. Upon visiting her homeland, she felt there was a dire need for improvement in The Hope Mission School. This became a mission of Westminster Presbyterian Church. Felicia is Chairman of its Hope Mission School Committee. This church is submitting a Thank Offering grant application for '17 grant. Felicia is also member of Westminster's Ad Hoc Exploratory PW group. They are currently learning about PW and are considering becoming a PW group.

Our second speaker was Judy. She gave an update on what was going on in PW at the Churchwide level and led a participative activity, *Our Gifts, What a Difference a Lens Make*. Judy had us list things we do to relax and talked about how those peaceful activities could be developed into projects that live out Christ's teachings. Therefore, feeding our spirits and being of service at the same time

Including Judy we had 27 people attending and 6 churches were represented. Our freewill offering of \$120 went to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, which provided support to Schoharie after Hurricane Irene

Judy Person's Trip Continued

Charlotte Hasslebarth took Judy to meet up with Barbara Schuck from the Utica PWP. They met in Herkimer. From there Barbara took Judy to Vanderkamp Center in Cleveland, New York to meet up with both Utica and Cayuga-Syracuse PWPs who hold their annual retreat during this week. We were so fortunate to have spend 24 hours with us at that time. Our retreat started Wednesday afternoon ended on Thursday afternoon. Judy divided her sessions into three Lenses. Lens was Looking at Missions through the Lens of Mission Opportunities. After the second Lens of Looking at Missions Through the Lens of Allowing God to The next morning we explored the Third Lens of Looking at Missions Through Own Gifts. In each Lens Judy challenged us to come up with items in each ry . We enjoyed social time over meals and our Fellowship in one of the Lodge- where we could have other times to talk with others and with Judy as well. It very productive enjoyable time.

Virginia
Hooper
trans-



Champlin came from Geneva PWP on Thursday to join us. She and Rita did a short presentation on their trip to Ferncliff in Arkansas. Virginia then ported Judy to Geneva PWP.



Barbara Schuck brings Rita to Vanderkamp Center for the retreat meeting Rita Hooper from Cayuga-Syracuse PWP.

Rita Hooper sends Judy off with Virginia Champlin from Geneva PWP



The Presbytery of Geneva's PW Fall Gathering "Mission Matters" was held on Friday, September 16th and was hosted by the women of Park Presbyterian Church in Newark. We were one "stop" along Judy Persons' trip through upstate New York. It was a delight to welcome Judy, Vice Moderator for Mission Relations of Churchwide to our Presbytery and to the Newark area. Virginia Champlin transported Judy on Thursday from the Cayuga-Syracuse area and she was welcomed at a dinner at my home and found gracious accommodations overnight at the home of Mary Cree, Vice Moderator of Park's PW.

The day, celebrating the mission and ministry of Presbyterian women from thirteen different churches, began at 9:30am and was truly a day of fellowship and enthusiasm. We welcomed back Rev. Debbie Grohman, who had been an Interim Pastor at Park Church, from Ontario Center who led us in an inspirational morning worship using the Thank Offering theme "In the Shadow of Your Wings" from Psalm 36:7. Park Church women served as greeters and ushers and Pastor Kirk

Judy Persons Trip Continues

Baker offered words of welcome and appreciation to the women gathered.

The day's theme of "Mission Matters" was enhanced by participating churches sharing their unique mission initiatives. Led by Lois Carter, our Together in Service coordinator, churches were invited to bring displays of their projects and talk about them. Following lunch in the afternoon there was an opportunity to participate in the "hands on" activity packaging meals for Stop Hunger Now, an organization with a vision to end hunger in our lifetime. During a sandwich luncheon Judy shared her message of the many ways our national PW is supporting mission work with an invitation encouraging us to actively join in and support the work. She closed with the announcement that the invitation extended by Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Geneva for us to become the geographic area for the 2019 U.S.A. Mission Experience had been accepted. There was great elation and enthusiasm by the 50 or so women attending.

My first year as Moderator of PW in the Presbytery seems to be a whirlwind of activity. God is truly leading me, and others, on a journey yet to unfold and I am blessed to have the support of so many women in the Presbytery of Geneva.

Respectfully, Linda Werts, PW Moderator of the Presbytery of Geneva

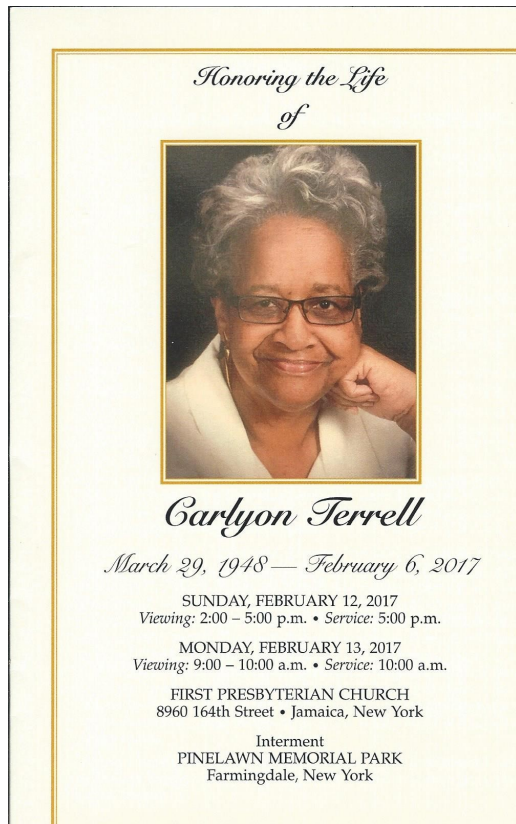


Judy meets
Linda Werts at
Geneva PWP

Judy then traveled to Western NY Presbytery for their PWP meeting on September 17, 2016. Again she carried her theme of Mission to their PWP. The meeting was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Youngstown, NY.

In each of PWPs each person came away with more of an understanding of Missions within the PCUSA in particular Presbyterian Women.

Her trip concluded by leaving from Buffalo, International Airport.



In Memoriam of Carlyon Terrell

Carlyon was currently serving on the PWSNE Coordinating Team when the Lord called her home.

She was born in Talladega, Alabama and had a twin sister, Lindlon Terrell. She was one of nine children. She graduated Salutatorian of her high school class. She received her B.S. Degree from CUNY then continued on to Fordham University where she received her Master Degree in Social Work.

She moved to NYC to join her sisters. At first she began working at the Automobile Club of America then later joined the Administration for Children's Services until her retirement.

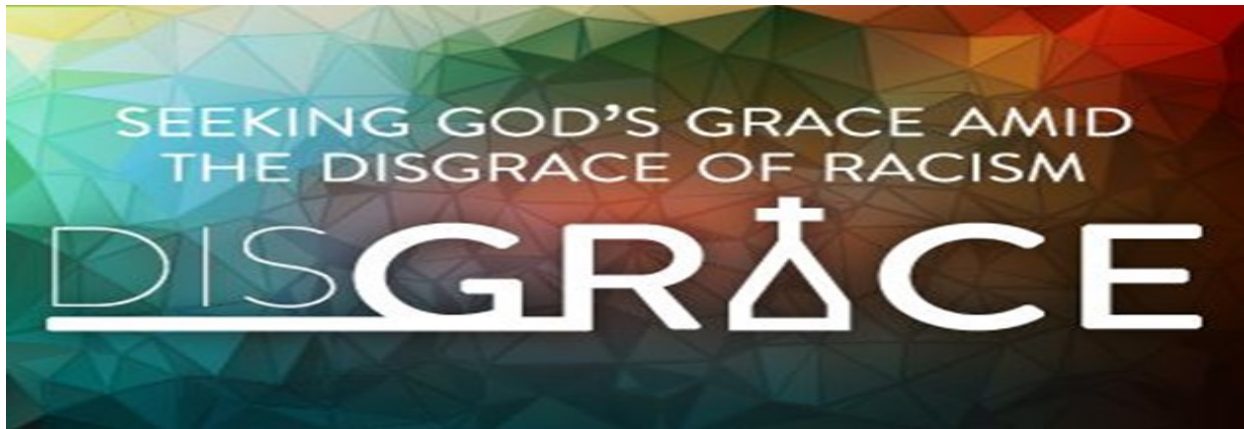
Despite many challenges in her life she lived life to the fullest. Raised as a Baptist she later became a Presbyterian where she was first introduced to the church by her son, Desean. She became active in the church and subsequently in Presbyterian Women. She was given a Honorary Life Membership in 2013. She also received a certificate of completion of the First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica in Lay Ministry.

Carlyon is survived by her son, Desean Calhoun, grandson, Desean Damik Calhoun, great grandson, Xavier Levi Calhoun and Shane Batiste; her sisters, Doris N. Terrell, Willie M. Terrell and Lindlon Terrell; and two brothers, Lovell Terrell and Leon Terrell; her godchild and niece, Shannon Ernest and many other family members. Two brothers and a sister predeceased her.

She was interned in Pinelawn Memorial Park in Farmingdale, NY.

Editor's note: The above was excerpted from Carlyon's Celebration of Life Ceremony bulletin.

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast							
Designated Funds--as of 12/31/2016							
12/31/2016							
				<u>Beg 1/1/2016</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
LEADERSHIP							
	Leadership Development			\$ 8,819.47		\$ (1,436.31)	\$ 7,383.16
	Racial Ethnic Dialogue			\$ 1,000.00		\$ (824.70)	\$ 175.30
	Sisters Stand & Walk Together			\$ 8,981.23			\$ 8,981.23
MISSION							
	Global Exchange			\$ 9,300.60		\$ (130.90)	\$ 9,169.70
	USA Mission Experience			\$ 2,642.40	\$ 2,320.00	\$ (2,354.83)	\$ 2,607.57
	Young Adult Volunteer			\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (3,400.00)	\$ (800.00)
SCHOLARSHIP							
	CW Gathering-Scholarship			\$ 1,247.25			\$ 1,247.25
	CW Gathering-Moderator			\$ 840.09			\$ 840.09
	CW Gathering-Seminarium			\$ 1,800.00			\$ 1,800.00
	Seminarian Ordination Exam			\$ 420.00		\$ (130.00)	\$ 290.00
	Synod Event Scholarship Fund			\$ 8,063.17	\$ 327.35	\$ (100.00)	\$ 8,290.52
PASS THROUGH							
	Totals			\$44,714.21	\$ 3,647.35	\$ (8,376.74)	\$39,984.82
		**This deficit will be made up with the 2017 budget line item which has been amended by Finance Committee to move \$3,000 to this line item.					



A Lesson Learned by Elder Alpha Brown

This conference was unique. I walked away with many things to think about. I also realized that I have not reached reality that we are all equal in God's eyes. All lives matter, God created a diverse world we must work in His kingdom to bring about a positive movement to our next generation. The keynote speaker for the event was Melissa Harris-Perry. She began the conference with the topic of race and racism that was opened with two separate workshops one for people of color and one for whites to talk about our experiences and how we can change those negative attitudes and report back to the session for discussion. In this conversation, we agreed that dialogue is needed on both sides. God created a diverse world not one for whites or one for blacks but a creation for all people. It is stated in **1 Corinthians 2:5** - That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Attending many workshops and worship services were an eye opening, but for me walking and talking with the attendees was stimulating. The conversation was about telling your true feeling regarding racism. Most of the attendees were in the same generation as me, we talked about our youth and our parents. Little did I know that my parents were very protective of me and my siblings? We were taught to be careful as many people did not like the color of our skin. During that time many black people were missing and found dead with no explanation. The KKK would ride through our community without blink of an eye. Therefore, I did not mingle with the whites in my community. While walking to one of many sessions, I talked with a white man telling me his story. It was similar to mind, his parents were also protective of him and he was not allowed to communicate with the blacks in the community, if he did there would be trouble, KKK. We are similar but yet different

The generation before us did not know the meaning of coming together as a people. They only knew that there would be trouble. Another conversation I had while walking through this beautiful campus. This time a white Pastor stood up for black lives matter. He met with opposite in his congregation the members did not want this type of action in their church. There were rioting in the community, the police stopped a student and arrested him because of his clothes that he was wearing. His job was on the line, but God stepped in as rioting in the community with both white and brown people on the same issue took a stand. Causing dialogued to begin in the community at his church.

The workshops were about the truth. Telling our stories that needed to be told was a release of the past. It seems as though, a nail has been tuck in a piece of wood that needed to be removed. Racism and white privilege are nails that cry out for new kinds of attention and healing in American society. We can no longer live in the past a new generation needs answers.

The workshop on "Not my People led by Jessica Vazquez Torres, reached out to people of color to explore the different ways of adopting initiatives among other groups of color to build a solidarity society for both white supremacy and people of color. Although "White Privilege was the main idea of the conference, Dr. Anthea Butler spoke on how she was sick and tired of explaining to white people why their actions hurt people of color. People of color are not given the same opportunities as whites but most whites feel that one must accept whatever is given because that you are inferior.

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The lessons learned at this conference are: together we can removed the nails by overlooking the color of our skins, opening God's box that we are a diverse community and understanding that we are to comfort each other so we can live in a peaceful society. As for our next generation we should begin a dialogue to speak the truth of the challenges that confront us each day.



The Gathering Quest continues. If you have not been receiving these emails and wish to do so please email Carissa Herold at carissa.herold@pcusa.org. Each gathering quest is inspirational on its own. PW will celebrate its 30th Anniversary this summer at the Gathering in Louisville. They are hoping many will attend and help celebrate. The theme of the emails focuses on the LIGHT.

The one just issued a few weeks ago highlights Katherine Johnson who received the Medal of Honor in 2015. Katherine's work was profiled in *Hidden Figures* She was at the Academy Awards. She was a brilliant mathematician for NASA . She is a lifelong member of Carver Memorial Presbyterian church in Newport News, VA. She was steadfast in her work and put her trust in God. She is testament for using one's gifts for the Glory of God.

There is more to the Gathering Quest. In addition it suggests ways you can save for it. If you had started when the Quest began you would have about \$330 towards the Gathering.

If you have never experience a Churchwide Gathering it is hoped you will come and bring young women as well. The brochure on the Gathering will be out near the end of this year as low and behold 2018 will soon be here.

See you at the Gathering.

Together in Service

Submitted by Rosalie Hemingway, Together in Service coordinator

Reusable Sanitary supplies for girls and women in under developed countries are being supplied by a number of organizations to help the recipients avoid discrimination and enable them to further their education. A lack of sanitary supplies, as well as bathroom facilities that provide privacy for changing or disposing of pads, creates a widespread problem in many areas. It can cause girls to miss school because of menstruation or to use less safe materials such as rags, newspaper, or bark. Unicef reports that in countries where menstrual hygiene is taboo, girls in puberty are typically absent for 20% of the school year causing them to fall behind in their studies. Most drop out at around age eleven to twelve at which time they may be considered to be of marriageable age.

Presbyterian Women have been supporting Little dresses for Africa which now has a *Dignity program* which encourages the sewing of sanitary pads called Sani-panties for distribution in Africa. The pattern and additional information can be found on their web site www.littledressesforafrica.org

Another organization with the same goal is Days for Girls which makes up hygiene kits. These include a draw string bag, eight flannel squares that can be folded into absorbent pads, two moisture barrier shields, a washcloth, and a gallon zip lock freezer bag which can be used for holding soiled pads and as a mini washing machine for washing the pads.

Women in the Cayuga/Syracuse area have been working on this project and completed sixteen complete kits plus a number of bags, shields, and pads in 2016. For more information go to www.daysforgirls.org

The MoonCatcher Project, headquartered in Schenectady, NY, uses a unique pattern for pads that can be used without underpants. MoonCatchers holds MoonBees" where kits are sewn and material is cut to be sewn by others. They also support a sewing collective in Uganda where kits are assembled thereby enabling women to earn money. The kits, along with training in hygiene and health issues, have been delivered to ten countries in Africa, plus Haiti, India, and Bali. MoonCatchers also encourages financial contributions toward the cost of material, postage, and providing instruction. For more information go to <http://mooncatchers.weebly.com/> Project or contact ellie@mooncatcher.org

Justice and Peace

Lori Evans, Coordinator

Join the campaign to help end violence
against
Women and girls.
Wear an orange ribbon as a symbol of our
Unity against this violence.
Once a month on the 25th wear an **Orange
Ribbon**.

Join the mission campaign to
Stamp out children from carrying rifles
The **red hand mission**, get those hands
Traced in red crayons and send off
To our mission agency in New York

Thank You

Thank you for your prayers and concerns when I had my car accident. It was shock to my whole system. Currently I am still suffering from a few sores that are under my rib cage on my left side where I must have hit the arm rest on the door. I also still have a hematoma near my collar bone and some other aches and pains. Fortunately no bones were discovered broken. My care didn't far so well as it was totaled. The Rescue people had to cut my windshield out to get me out of the car as the car was flipped on its side from the force where the guy hit me. The Lord was watching over me that's for certain.

Not too long after, I came down with and very bad cold. Some of it was a lot of coughing and I stayed in bed a lot. I had to get out of the house a few times for a change of scenery as well.

Good News is I was able to find a good deal on a new car.

From Newark PWP

Jo Ann Burrell TIS Coordinator

Presbyterian Women In the Newark Presbytery

The women of the PWP Newark have been very busy doing God's mission in 2016, and continuing to celebrate the Cloud of Witnesses that came before us showing us the way.

PWP Newark had a major presence in all areas of mission, participating in activities in the areas of evangelism, stewardship, church school, aid, building & grounds, ushering, crafting, handling fiscal operations, Holy Week services, personnel, travel, spiritual life, and worship, just to name a few.

The following are a few of the activities of the Presbyterian Women in the Newark Presbytery in the year 2016:

Distribution of food to the hungry.
Partnership with the students of Bloomfield College during the Thanksgiving and Easter holiday seasons providing foods, gift bags, and companionship.
Provided training on cancer, health, and advocacy for social witness.
Provided services and scholarship to children to attend Summer Camps.
Providing a monthly Bible Studies and conversations on "Who Is Jesus?".
Providing scholarships for gatherings and training events to women for continuing education.
Providing funding for the Nepal Project in India to children and families in need.
Providing Thanksgiving and Easter meals thru partnerships and Adopt A Family Programs.
Running Flea Markets, church school programs, and Women's Day and Father's Day programs.
Making "Little Dresses for Africa", and for persons in need in the USA.
Making crochet and knit caps for infants in the USA.
Supporting the PCUSA Hunger Program.
Making School and Hygiene Kits for local and regional organizations.
Providing care, compassion and love to those in need

We thank God for giving us the ability to follow in Jesus' foot steps to provide love, care, and guidance to all of God's people. We are looking forward to our service in mission in the year 2017.

The 2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study at Stony Point Center

May 9-11, 2017

Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews

Hebrews is both long and complex. Those qualities make it an exciting and interesting book to study; they also make it impossible to cover fully in nine lessons. We will approach the letter thematically, not sequentially, using the overarching theme of “community.” Each lesson will focus on that theme from a different angle.

✳️ **In Community With Jesus Christ.** Jesus is both the head and the foundation of the church community.

✳️ **In Community With the Living God.** Explore the connection between the Christ and the living God, and how that connection supports the life of the community of faith.

✳️ **In Community With the Living Word.** How does *Hebrews* define “the word,” and how does our connection to it bring us together?

✳️ **In Community With God’s Messengers.** What does *Hebrews* have to teach about angels and how does that strengthen community?

✳️ **In Community With the Tradition of the Past.** What can we learn from bringing that ancient tradition of the readers forward into our time while also being relevant and modern? ✳️ **In Community With the Reality of the Present.** Suffering was a present condition of the original recipients of *Hebrews*. How do people of faith make their way through the difficulties they face? ✳️ **In Community With the Hope of the Future.** The theme of Sabbath rest is important in this epistle. How do we find that rest today?

✳️ **In Community With the Household of Faith.** How does *Hebrews*, along with the tradition, use the images of “house” and “household” to illuminate issues of community and faith? ✳️ **In Community With All the Saints.** How do we draw strength from all those saints, past and present, who have influenced us?

Melissa Bane Sevier is a teaching elder in the PCUSA who, after more than 23 years as a pastor, chose in 2015 to leave the pastorate and focus on her longtime ministry of writing and photography. She’s written for numerous publications and published a book on clergy sabbaticals for the Alban Institute; she also writes and takes pictures for businesses. Melissa is a frequent preacher and speaker in a variety of settings. In addition to her work

Melissa makes time to spend outdoors—camping, hiking, jogging, gardening. She lives in Versailles, Kentucky, with her husband Jerry.

The full program 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 x 107 with any questions.

STONY POINT CENTER Conference Registration Form

Horizon Bible Study May 9-11, 2017 (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 \$

___Donation for Program \$

TOTAL\$ _____

___Check enclosed (payable to Stony Point Center)

___Visa ___MasterCard

FOR THROUGH HIM WE BOTH
HAVE ACCESS TO THE FATHER BY ONE
SPIRIT..."

Ephesian 2: 17-21

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast Triennial Gathering

August 18-19, 2017

The Desmond Albany Hotel
Albany, New York

Registration
Information and Forms
"Household of Faith"
Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast
2017 Triennial Gathering
Friday, August 18 - Saturday, August 19, 2017 Des-
mond Hotel and Conference Center
Albany, New York

Who is the foreigner? Who is the native? What is it like to be "the other?" 'These are the questions to be explored at our Gathering. Based on the scripture Ephesians, Chapter 2:17-21 "...you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household..." a diverse group of speakers, panelists and workshop leaders will highlight migration, immigration and cultural diversity. Our goal and hope is that all the attendees will have a renewed commitment to deal with others in love and understanding. This is an especially meaningful theme for us as our Synod is the most culturally diverse in PC(USA).

We are particularly thrilled to announce that the Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, past-Vice Moderator of the General Assembly, PCUSA and Carol Winkler, PW Churchwide Moderator will be our keynote speakers.

One part of the program is an Immigration and Diversity Forum. Panelists will include Rev. Sandy Damhof, a University Chaplain who has taken a group of students to the US/ Mexico Border, Carole Hsu, a journalist, Rev. Katie Mulligan, an inner city youth pastor and Jacinth Hanson the Moderator elect from the Synod of the Northeast. The Gathering will conclude with communion worship being led by Rev. Shannan R. Vance-Ocampo, Interim Presbyterian of Albany.

Under the leadership of our Vice Moderator and the Design Team Chair, Su-Ling Lai some innovations are being implemented for this Triennial. The length has been reduced from three to two days, resulting in the need to stay over just one night. Plans are being made to make meals optional for the commuters so that attending the Gathering can be less expensive for the commuters.

The Design Team has worked very hard to make our Triennial Gathering one that will bring the participants closer to peace, love and understanding within our "Household of Faith.)'

Presbyterian Women Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast
2017 Triennial Gathering
"Household of Faith"

Friday-Saturday, August 18-19
The Desmond, Albany, New York

Program Registration Fee \$100

- Helps PWSNE pay for our worship and workshop leaders' transportation, honorariums, room and board
- Any printed materials needs, postage

Early Bird Program Registration Fee \$75

- All Registration Fees paid by July 22, will receive this reduction

Room and Board Fee

- Helps pay for the participants room, 4 meals (Friday lunch, Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch), workshop meeting rooms, piano rental, audio-visual equipment rental
- Single Occupancy \$280 / Double \$218 / Triple \$198 / Quad \$188
- Children 12 and under stay free - just pay \$70 for meals
- Children 13 and over are considered adults, and pay full package plan amount

Scholarships

- Go to PWSNE Web Site for guidelines and applications ➤ Preference will be given to first time attenders

Address and Directions to The Desmond

- 660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, New York 12211. Phone 800-249-8071. ➤ www.desmondhotelsalbany.com
- Please check Map Quest, Google Maps, Waze or your GPS

Public Transportation

- The Desmond provides pre-arranged shuttle to/from the Albany airport. ➤ The Desmond does not provide transportation to/from the train.

Presbytery PWP

- The Saturday lunch time is being set aside for each Presbytery to eat and sit together

Commuters Fee

- All Commuters are to pay the Program Registration Fee plus any meals that they would like:

__ Friday Lunch - \$30 __ Friday Dinner - \$40 __ Saturday
Lunch __ \$30 __ Commuters may choose not to eat in at The
Desmond Hotel

Workshops and Panel Discussion

- Three Workshops and everyone will be able to attend all three ➤ Everyone will be able to attend the Panel Discussion

Business Meeting

- There will be a brief Business Meeting on Friday 1:15-1:45 p.m.
 - o To hear a report from the Search Committee and vote on the slate of officers
 - o Any other business brought forward
 - o All Delegates should attend to vote and all others are welcome to attend

Voting Delegates

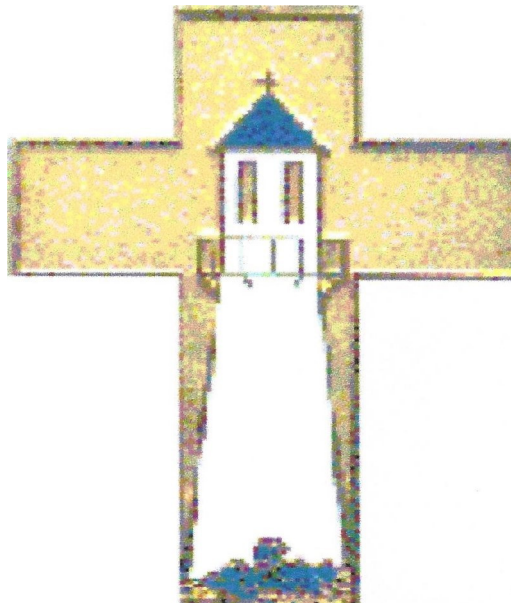
- The currently serving Coordinating Team Members
- Each PWP Moderator (or a Designated or Contact Person)

Coordinating Team Meeting

- During Saturday breakfast 8:00-8:30 a.m.

Gathering Offering

- The Gathering Offering will be collected during the Worship Service on Saturday ➤ The recipient(s) of the Gathering Offering will be announced at the Gathering. If you would like to nominate organizations for consideration, please Email Su-Ling Lai, Vice Moderator, at swlai2000@gmail.com



Tentative Schedule (as of 1-24-2017)

8/18/17 (Fri.)		8/19/17 (Sat.)	
	Travel to Albany NY	7- 8:45 am	Breakfast
		8 -8:30 am	CT meeting
		9 am till 10:30 am	Immigration/diversity fo- rum presentation and Q&A Panelists: Carole Hsu Rev. Sandy Damhof Rev. Katie Mulligan Elder Jacinth Hanson Modera- tor of the forum: Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia
11 am till 7 pm	Registration	10:45 am till 12:15 pm	Workshop A, B, C A: Migration in the Bible - Jenny Lee Music - Chi Yi Chen and pianist God's Radical Hospitality - Carol Winkler
12 noon 1:45 pm	Lunch	12:15 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:15 - 1:45 pm	Business Meeting		
2 pm till 3:30 pm	Welcome and opening plenary session Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia PCUSA video-journeying in hope Synod welcome YouTube video	1:45 pm till 3:15 pm	Workshop A, B, C A: Migration in the Bible -Jenny Lee Music - Chi Yi Chen and pianist God's Radical Hospitality - Carol Winkler
3:45 pm till 5:15 pm	Workshop A, B, C A: Migration in the Bible - Jenny Lee Music - Chi Yi Chen and pianist God's Radical Hospitality - Carol Winkler	3:20 pm till 4 pm	Closing worship By Rev. Shannan R. Vance-Ocampo
5:15 -7 pm	Dinner	4 pm -	Safe travel home
7 pm till 9 pm	Plenary session, Installation of new officers Keynote: Carol Winkler		
9 pm -	Social Hours		

Gathering Speakers: (full biographies will be in the Program Booklet at Gathering)

Carol Winkler — PW Churchwide Moderator	Plenary speaker & Workshop 3 leader
Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, past Vice Moderator, General Assem- bly PC(USA)	Opening plenary speaker & moderator for the forum
Chi Yi Chen - Music Director & workshop leader	Music Director and Workshop 2 leader
Jenny Lee — workshop leader	Workshop 1 leader
Pianist & workshop support	Pianist and support Workshop 2
Rev. Sandy Damhof (Chaplain-Mexico border exp.)	panelist - Immigration/diversity forum
Carole Hsu (writer/journalist)	panelist - Immigration/diversity forum
Rev. Katie Mulligan (Pastor, inner city youth)	panelist - Immigration/diversity forum
Jacinth Hanson (Moderator elect, Synod of NE)	panelist - Immigration/diversity forum
Rev. Shannan R Vance-Ocampo (Interim Presbyter)	closing worship

Presbyterian Women Synod of the Northeast

2017 Triennial Business Meeting and Gathering Registration Form

Please! Register on or before: August 1, 2017

Name _____ Presbytery _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Emergency Contact _____

Special needs (dietary, mobility, etc.) _____

PWP Moderator or voting rep. _____ PWSNE CT member _____ Guest _____

- All Participants must pay the Program Fee \$100
Registrations received by Jul 22, Early Registration Fee \$75

Commuter Plan is per person and is priced by component. Commuter may choose not to eat in at the Desmond Hotel.		
Program Fee — All a, non-refundable \$100/\$75		
Friday Lunch \$30.00		
Friday Dinner \$40.00		
Saturday Lunch \$30.00		
Circle which meals are desired, and move amount to right column, then total.		
Total for Commuter		

Package Plan is per person and includes program fee, 4 meals (Fri Lunch & Dinner, Sat Breakfast, Sat Lunch), 1 night (Fri) overnight		
Option	# in Room	Fee
Program Fee — All pay, non-refundable		\$100/\$75
Single Occupancy	1	\$280.00
Double Occupancy	2	\$218.00
Triple Occupancy	3	\$198.00
Quad Occupancy	4	\$188.00
Children 12 and under stay free —just pay \$70.00 for meals. Children 13 and over are considered adults, and a the full Package Plan Amount.		
Circle one fee, please, and indicate roommate(s) below. If no roommates listed, we will assign you one.		
Roommate 1		
Roommate 2		
Roommate 3		
Total Package for Plan		

PWSNE pays room (based on double occupancy) & board for PWP Moderator or voting representative and PWSNE CT members currently serving & 2017 nominees. **Total Enclosed** _____

Return this form with check payable to PW Synod of the Northeast and mail to Virginia Champlin, 4381 Wabash Rd., Geneva, NY 14456. Any questions regarding registration please contact Virginia Champlin via email at danvirginiac@aol.com or call 585-526-5841. All registrations will be honored when accompanied by payments.