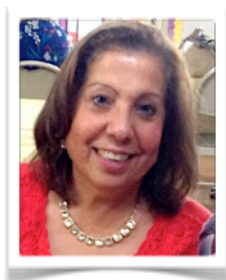


THE PATTERN

We hope you enjoy our February issue of **The Patter**. We are looking forward to our Spring Gathering coming up in April. Our theme this Spring is **Women in Leadership** and we hope you consider joining us. Wishing you all a very healthy and blessed new year for 2019.



The communion table at the Spring Gathering of 2018



We ask that the person receiving this issue, please copy, post and distribute appropriate portions of this newsletter to women in your congregation

Words from our Moderator Elder Adina Yacoub

Our Lord Jesus Christ recognized the gifts and leadership of women long ago. Jesus's disciples were all men but the scripture details how important the role of women was in the Old Testament and the New Testament. From Eve, Ruth, Naomi, Esther, Sarah and the **Egyptian woman Hagar** in the Old Testament to the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus and Mary Magdalene in the New Testament. I will share my personal story as it related to some of these women in the Bible who experienced immigration and leaving behind all that is comfortable and familiar. My personal story is as follows: my family immigrated to the United States from Egypt in 1971. I was a young girl at the time, but I remember vividly our journey to

the land of milk and honey. My first two years in this country were a struggle in school and my social life. I did not speak English and I had no friends. However, being young and teachable I learned English and took Spanish and French at Leonia High School where I lived at the time. My late mother was the wife of a traveling preacher and as such she led the home and raised seven children mostly on her own while my father planted new churches all over Egypt. My mom was a woman ahead of her time and taught us four girls and three boys that your faith is important and to be strong in order to accomplish and succeed.

I did listen to my mom, did well in school and finished college. I started my career as a case worker trying to help people apply for public assistance. As years went by and as a result of hard work, I was promoted to several positions and this immigrant **Egyptian woman** became a Director. The drive was to keep the faith and allow God to take control of your life. Stay true to yourself and advocate for the less fortunate. I worship in a Middle Eastern church that did not advocate for women to be elders, not to say that women did not play an

important part in the church. But after 45 years in existence the time has come for a woman to be an ordained elder in my church. I was blessed to be the first woman elder and was ordained in 2016 by the former denomination Stated Clerk the Rev. Gradye Parsons.

The leadership of Esther in her quiet way and how God put her in the kingdom for "Such a Time as This" always inspired me. I have seen God use me for His glory for such a time as this.

In my family the strong women of several generations continue as I see it in my daughter and how God is using her. I thank God everyday for his goodness on me and my family. I wish 2019 makes all things new and brings blessings and growth for our Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Palisades. The love and respect we have for one another as the coordinating team of Presbyterian women is amazing and special. We pray for one another, we feel each other's joys and challenges

Adina Yacoub,

Moderator

PW Presbytery of the Palisades



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2018 Fall Retreat at First Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood, NJ



To the left is the Gathering Leader
Rev. Fran Thiessen, Honorably Retired





The 2018 Fall Retreat was well attended and the host church First Presbyterian Ridgewood was very hospitable.

Rev. Fran Thiessen, our Gathering Leader did a wonderful job of meditation on the Word. In this workshop the focus was on gratitude, a virtue we all need.

"Gratitude is intertwined with our faith, our hope and our love. It leads to a deeper relationship with God, with ourselves, and with each other. Although essential for our spiritual life, it is often missing from modern spiritual practice"

It was a time of self-reflection and vulnerable emotions from the ladies in the room. There were tears as ladies spoke of their loss of loved ones and there were laughs as we came up with funny stories from the past. This gathering was extra special for me as my friends who attend the Arabic service at First Pres of Ridgewood on Sunday nights came out and were in attendance. Some of the names are Sonia Hanna, Suzi Hanna, Juliette Karas and Janet Abdou.

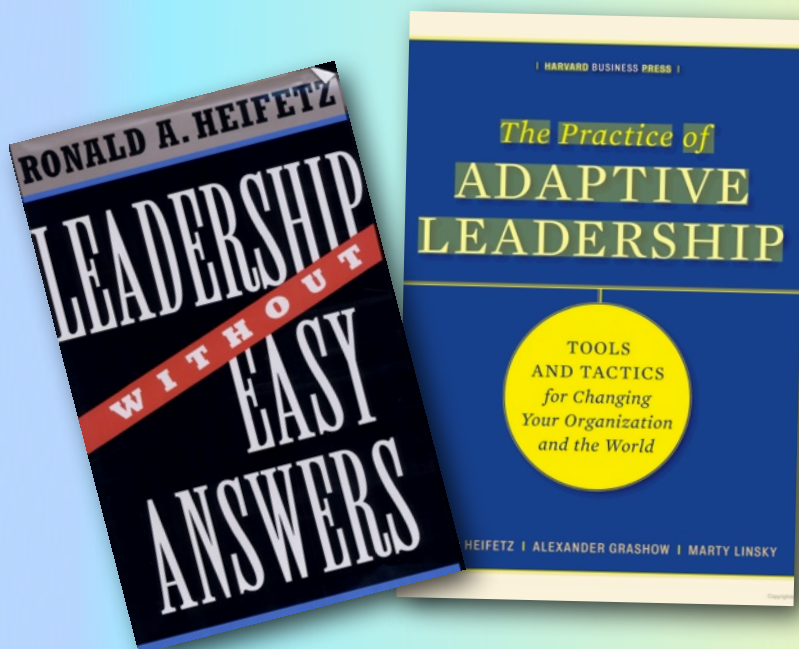
Adina

The PWSNE Fall Gathering took place at the Christ the King Spiritual Life Center in Albany



The following photos were taken on September 28 – 29, 2018 at the PWSNE Fall Gathering, Christ the King Spiritual Life Center in Albany NY. Three members from our CT represented our Presbytery. In the large group photo is Peace & Justice coordinator Marion Gregg-Whited, (far left) Programs coordinator Sophie Corporan, (far right) and Together in Service/Missions coordinator Brenda Calloway. (who attended but is not in the photo)

Leadership for a changing Church: PW promotes adaptive leadership



Presbyterian Women (PW) has promoted and taught various leadership strategies as the landscapes of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), church and society have changed. Most recently, PW promoted adaptive leadership, a practical leadership framework developed at Harvard University that helps individuals and organizations adapt and thrive in challenging environments. Adaptive leaders, both individually and collectively, take on the gradual but meaningful process of change.

For more information, see *Leadership without Easy Answers* by Ronald A. Heifetz, or *The Practice of Adaptive Leadership: Tools and Tactics for Changing Your Organization and the World* by Ronald Heifetz, Alexander Grashow and Marty Linsky. Both books were published by Harvard University Press.

The [*PW Manual: A Guide for PW Groups*](#) (2016) provides adaptive leadership suggestions for PW at the congregational level. Because many PC(USA) churches are smaller now, and PW membership has declined in some congregations, adapting from a coordinating team model to leadership within circles is a practical way to continue PW mission and ministry at the congregational level.

This revised edition includes the fundamentals—structure and relationships, giving and mission, and a guide for PW leadership. For Treasurers and Celebration Giving representatives, the *PW Manual: Guide for Treasurers* is available as a free download or a hard copy \$6.00 PWR16120



Come join us for our Spring Gathering

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN February/2019



Theme: What Women Bring as Leaders— Biblical Role Models

PW in the Presbytery of the Palisades

“**SPRING GATHERING**”

Saturday April 27, 2019

9:15 am - 1:30 pm

The First Presbyterian Church of Hackensack

64 Passaic St. Hackensack, NJ

Bible Study: Qualities of Great Leadership

Scripture: Matthew 1:1-6, 15: 21-28

Host Pastor &
Gathering leader:
Rev. Steven McClelland
Telephone: 201-342-7570



REGISTRATION: Only \$5.00
Breakfast, Lunch and
Dessert will be provided.

*Do not miss this opportunity
of praising, learning and
sharing the blessings that our
Lord has given us.*



Meet our Host Pastor and Gathering Leader Rev. Steve McClelland

Born and raised in the Midwest Steve has lived in Jersey since 1981. He and his wife Dotty have lived in Bergen County for nearly two decades. They have four beautiful daughters who are the delight of their lives.

Steve describes his theology this way: "Some people see Jesus as a dogma to be defended or a theology to be espoused. I simply see Jesus as the one who marks my way, tells me the truth and offers me an abundance of life."

Steve enjoys photography, all things Apple, traveling, and hanging out with family and friends. He enjoys talking about religion and politics – all the things that you are not supposed to talk about.

Steve is the third generation in his family to serve as a Presbyterian pastor, which according to his father, "demonstrates an incredible lack of imagination on his part."



Introducing Sarah Beth Baca, the artist who created the beautiful portraits of Women of the Bible used on our Spring Gathering Poster

"I'm a professional artist specializing in acrylic, watercolor, ink and mixed media."

"My most known work is currently my women of the Bible series titled **Full Image**".

"I'm so proud of this series because it came from a place of struggle and discovery in my faith journey. Through hours of reading and study, I had gained some fresh perspective on ancient stories of women of the Bible and wanted to share my discoveries in a unique and relevant way. This series consists of half face portraits of 25 different women from Scripture. The series is nearly complete, with a few more left to paint. I sell prints of these portraits online at Society6, and my plan is to compile the portraits into a coffee table style book."

To see a complete set of all of the lovely portraits Sarah has illustrated so far, go to this link.

<https://society6.com/sarahbethbacaart/collection/full-image--women-of-the-bible>



LYDIA

JOANNA

SARAH



“Together in Service”

Local mission work in Jersey City,



The Shoebox Project

For the past few years, the (Bessie Mann Sisterhood) **Presbyterian Women at Claremont-Lafayette United Presbyterian Church** have provided homeless and displaced women in Jersey City those personal care items that we all need.

Through the generosity of the entire church membership we have filed twenty boxes and delivered them to homeless programs serving mothers and their young children. We began the project around the Christmas holidays, but the group decided that we should collect the items year round and periodically deliver the completed boxes to selected organizations. We continue to provide them in lots of 20-25.

Our boxes included:

Shampoo and Conditioner, Notebook and pen,
Shaving cream and disposable razors, Warm socks
Adult toothbrushes and toothpaste, Tissues,
New washcloths, Body Lotion,
Comb and brush, Band-Aids, Sanitary supplies

Because most of the items were donated, the project was done with little expenses. In fact, one of our members appealed to people in her place of work who shared the shampoos, conditions, lotions etc. that they receive from hotels and then placed in a drawer to be forgotten. They were also added to the boxes.

One nearby group supports a similar project celebrating Mother's Day. They fill gently used purses with these items and donate them to homeless women in their community.



I would love to learn more about the projects and activities of the Presbyterian Women in your church. If your group is planning an activity or a work session, I'd love to visit and participate. Please contact me at 201 920 4431 or at Breane314@gmail.com.

Brenda Calloway
Missions Coordinator

“Life's most persistent and urgent question is: **What are you doing for others?**”
Martin Luther King Jr.

Bergenfield, Hackensack & Teaneck NJ

The Late Deacon Diane Dorner (center) with her daughter on the right and her granddaughter on the left.



A portion of the display of Diane's handiwork shown at the dinner to honor her life and ministry.



Little Dresses for Africa

The Congregation of **the South Presbyterian Church, Bergenfield** (...and the *Susan Young Circle*) extended their appreciation at their Annual Advent Dinner for the amazing dedication of PW member and active Deacon Diane Dorner. Over the years Diane has joyously hand-sewn hundreds of Little Dresses for Africa along with little shorts for boys, plus dozens of scarves and hats for local social services. This gave her great purpose in her life. Her service as a Deacon over many terms was outstanding, always there in service helping others and in service to the Lord. She was a fine example of servant leadership and will be greatly missed by all. Sadly Diane passed away only a few weeks after she was recognized for this worthy ministry.

All of her handiwork is being sent to Little Dresses for Africa and to CUMAC.

First Presbyterian Church of Hackensack is "Picking Up the Tab".

Pop Tab Program/ Picking up the Tab

FPC Hackensack is collecting aluminum pull-tab rings found on beverage/dog food/cat food/soup cans to help our environment and to help families in need. These small, all too often overlooked gems are proving to be a tremendous source of charitable revenue for the Ronald McDonald House.

Pop tab rings have significant value in the recycling industry, representing the purest form of a desirable metal for those who recycle. Ronald McDonald House serves families whose children require care at an area hospital by offering them a home-like atmosphere where they can get the rest and renewal needed to be supportive of their sick or injured child. Tabs on pop cans can easily be removed by twisting them back and forth until they break off. Because the tabs are so small, they can be collected in many types of convenient containers, such as buckets, boxes, coffee cans, etc. Aluminum tabs can be dropped off or mailed to:
*Ronald McDonald House,
145 Somerset Street, New Brunswick,*

The Presbyterian Church of Teaneck.

Mission projects:

The annual DJ England Foundation golf outing receipts benefited Bryant school in Teaneck for equipment.

Food donations were collected for The Center for Food Action at Thanksgiving and Loaves and Fishes on "Souper Bowl" Sunday.

Christian Ed sponsored a Giving Tree of gifts to a family of seven at Christmas time.

Give to “Together in Service” PC(USA) programs

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance & to Hunger Action programs



U.S. Department of Agriculture photo by Preston Keres



PDA is working with Santa Barbara Presbytery, Sacramento Presbytery and the Presbytery of the Pacific to respond to the recent wildfires in California. PDA has deployed National Response Team members to the Presbytery of the Pacific to be embedded into the American Red Cross shelters in Pacific Palisades and San Fernando Valley, at the ARC's request, as Disaster Spiritual Care Providers. Grants are being disbursed and more deployments are forthcoming.

Looking for a hands-on way to help? [Gift of the Heart kits](#) are a great option. School kits and hygiene kits will be needed in California especially.

We are using our U.S. Wildfires account for this disaster--[DR000165](#).

[Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#)

Gleaning to feed the hungry

A call to serve those without food is answered.

People who grow food have too much, while some people go hungry. There must be a way to get the excess produce from the growers to the hungry. There was a way, and my friend John Walker called it “gleaning” — a biblical practice of leaving some of your crops in the field for the poor. To read more, go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pt-0119-hungering/>

By Erica Horn / Presbyterians Today

[Presbyterian Hunger Program](#)

[Click here](#) if you are interested in learning more about becoming a Hunger Action Congregation.

Give to “Together in Service” Ecumenical programs

Sustainable and safe water.

It makes a world of difference.

Water — safe and accessible — is at the very heart of a community's ability to thrive. Some 783 million people throughout the world have little or no access to clean water and nearly 2.5 billion do not have access to adequate sanitation.

Against those odds, Church World Service joins communities to help build and maintain a variety of water systems — from sand dams to wells to reservoirs — that draw upon rainwater or underground sources. **Go to this link to watch this video on youtube**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=352&v=OW_h80Ur_0k

PW Birthday Offering Recipients for 2019



Presbyterian women have a long tradition of caring for others and helping those in need. Ever since 1922, when Hallie Paxson Winsborough, superintendent of women's work in the PCUS, visited Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan, and challenged members of the Woman's Auxiliary to give one penny for each year of their lives (or a dollar if a woman preferred not to reveal her age) as a birthday gift to the school, Presbyterian women's Birthday Offering has helped fund major mission projects that have improved the lives of women and children around the world.

Disaster Response Team

Presbytery of Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina



The Disaster Response Team of the Presbytery of Charlotte will expand its ministry to support people affected by human-made or natural disasters. PW's grant will help provide a warehouse, parking lot and security fencing. This new space will hold household goods, food, hygiene, and school kits, and clean-up buckets, and will house mobile shower units and disaster recovery trailers.

Effingham Child Development Center

Inclusive Playground, Effingham, Illinois



In a child's early years inclusive play environments set the tone for successful future relationships. The Effingham Child Development Center serves children and families of differing abilities and is paving the way for all kids to learn and play together. The Birthday Offering will improve the center's playground by helping to provide a protective play surface and all-inclusive play equipment.

Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky, Inc.

Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center, Phelps, KY.



Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky cares for people who are sick, poor, lonely or vulnerable due to infirmities of age and poor health. This project will improve the quality of life and safety for nursing center residents in the Appalachian region of Eastern Kentucky. PW's grant will help provide new wardrobes, bedside cabinets, over-bed tables, nursing beds, mattresses and lift recliners.

Wings of Refuge

Restoration Home, Iowa Falls, Iowa



Click [here](http://createsend.com/t/1EC27EC84411CBA82540EF23F30FEDED) to see the promotional video on the Presbyterian Women YouTube channel. To learn more about the 2019 Birthday Offering and its recipients, click the following link: <http://createsend.com/t/1EC27EC84411CBA82540EF23F30FEDED>.

Wings of Refuge provides a safe and healing space for women victimized by human trafficking. Without safety and shelter, there is little healing. PW's Birthday Offering grant will help fund a larger long-term safe home where many more women will find restoration, identity, community, opportunity and hope, and transition into independent living.

Learn about giving to the Birthday Offering or applying for a Birthday Offering grant by contacting [Cheri Harper](#).

As seen on Facebook

Happy 100th Birthday to Ms. Katherine Johnson, NASA human computer who calculated trajectories for the Apollo space missions by hand!



An Escape From The Noise
August 26, 2018

Like Page

A member of a Presbyterian Church in VA for more than 50 years, an elder and Clerk of Session.

As seen on Google



Sojourner Truth was an African-American women's rights activist who also worked for the abolition of slavery. Here are a few thoughts by Sojourner Truth as seen through the perspective of a slave.

"I feel safe in the midst of my enemies, for the truth is all powerful and will prevail."

"Where there is so much racket, there must be something out of kilter"

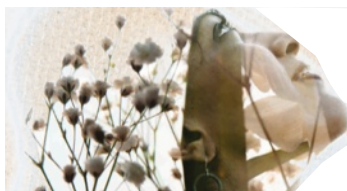
To hear her 1851 speech go to:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=193&v=EsjdLL3MrKk

Calendar of Opportunities: Save the dates!

March is Women's History Month



World Day of Prayer
Friday March 1, 2019,
www.wdp-usa.org
212-870-2466



Celebrate the Gifts of Women
Sunday March 3, 2019,
(or whatever date you choose)
Resources available
www.pcusa.org/women



International Women's Day
March 8, 2019

UN (United Nations) Commission on the Status of Women –
March 11 through to 22
www.unwomen.org



Undoing Racism Workshop
From **March 18, 2019 6:30 pm**
until **March 20, 2019 3:30 pm**
At [Stony Point Center](http://StonyPointCenter)
<https://stonypointcenter.org>



Don't forget
to wear
Orange!
Orange Day
March 25

PW Presbytery of the Palisades
CT meeting for Spring Gathering
March 23, 2019, 9:30 am
Presbytery office- 340 W Passaic St,
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662



PW Presbytery of the Palisades
SPRING GATHERING 2019
Sat. April 27, 9:15 am-1:30 pm
See poster on page 6 for more information.



PW Presbytery of the Palisades
CT meeting for Fall Retreat
August 24, 2019, 9:30 am
Presbytery office- 340 W Passaic St,
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662



PW Presbytery of the Palisades
FALL RETREAT
September 14, 2019, 9:30 am
West Side Presbyterian, Ridgewood
Theme and Speaker to come.

Mission Pledge:

Your guide for giving to PW's Annual Fund



Find all the information and materials you need to promote and collect the 2019 Mission Pledge (PW's annual fund) in your PW group. Includes instructions for using the materials; a letter from Jyung In Lee CCT moderator; about the critical role of the Mission Pledge in the support of PW and the church; sample pledge cards for reproduction and distribution with instructions for their use; and interpretive material that states what the Mission Pledge's funding means to PW and the church.



You may order [group giving \(pledge collection\) envelopes](#) and/or [individual giving envelopes](#).

Deborah Heatwole
Treasurer



Presbyterian Women in the Congregation Remittance Form 2019

(Use this form for your next remittance.)

Please check if

- ☐ New treasurer
☐ New address

Mail to

PW in the Presbytery Treasurer
Deborah Heatwole
First Presbyterian Church
64 Passaic Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601
deborah@fpchackensack.org

Please make check payable to

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Palisades

Enclosed is check # _____ Total amount \$ _____

Congregation: _____

Treasurer's name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone: _____ Email: _____

Please fill in the amount of where you want the money to go.

301/Mission Pledge \$ _____	303/Birthday Offering \$ _____	305/Memorial/Recognition _____
302/Thank Offering \$ _____	304/Honorary Life Membership(s) \$ _____	308/Least Coin \$ _____
Other <u>Support of Presbytery PW</u> , \$ _____	Other <u>Support of Synod PW</u> , \$ _____	
_____ , \$ _____	_____ , \$ _____	

Together in Service

www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/give/together-in-service/

320/Mission Opportunity \$ _____	International Medical Ministry \$ _____	PW 000006
Roma Development Project \$ _____	Congo Palm Development Project \$ _____	PW 000007
PW 000005		

Quarterly remittances and summaries should be mailed in time to reach the PW in the Presbytery treasurer no later than **March** ____, **June** ____, **September** ____, and **December** ____. They may be mailed earlier, if possible.

Revised 10/11

PEACE & JUSTICE

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN February/2019

Celebrating racial and ethnic diversity— Differences should enrich, not enrage us

The Lord said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they will know that I will be with you as I was with Moses."...Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites." – Joshua 3:7, 10



**Peace & Justice
Coordinator:**

Marion Gregg-Whited

As Christians who claim the universal love of God in Jesus Christ, let us actively claim the promises of a new heaven and new earth, in which tribal, ethnic and racial differences provide occasions for growth and enrichment, rather than instruments of conflict and oppression.

Wow! What about the Philistines? And are there others who need to be subdued? Tongue-twisting passages like these are the bane of lay readers and a source of fascination for many who heard these wondrous lists of names read on a Sunday morning. They are a rendering of the ethnic diversity of the world the Hebrews marched into under Joshua and are a "list of enemies" who stood between the children of Israel and the Promised Land.

But the story is much longer. In the person for Jesus, it becomes a challenge to those who dare claim that they are "the chosen," whose future is guaranteed: "Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Some one asked him, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able.... There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and eat in the kingdom of God" (Luke 13:22-30)

We are not Canaanites, Hittites or Jebusites, but all of us humans are part of the incredible mix of races, tribes and ethnicities created by God. And the truth is that we have defaced the work done by our Creator by choosing sides based on our perceived tribal identities ignoring the fact that few, if any of us, can claim any absolute tribal or ethnic purity.

Most of us who have dared to research our lineage through Ancestry.com or some other channel have discovered surprises. Some have even come to the point of deciding that when they box on forms indicating their ethnicity, they will now check "Other."

We must approach our racial and ethnic identity with great care, remembering that we have too often used that sense of identity to lord it over others whom we deem less worthy. It is called "racism." It was used to justify slavery in the United States, and it is still at work in every nation. Author Ta-Nehisi Coates framed the issue in the plainest of language when he wrote, "Race is the child of racism, not the father."

Whenever racism exists, it is about power. It employs manufactured racial categories that determine who will be privileged, who will be ignored or neglected and who will be oppressed. As Christians who claim the universal love of God in Jesus Christ, let us actively claim the promises of a new heaven and new earth, in which tribal, ethnic and racial differences provide occasions for growth and enrichment, rather than instruments of conflict and oppression.

Vernon Broyles III is a volunteer for public witness in the PC(USA)'s Office of the General Assembly. PRESBYTERIANS TODAY MAGAZINE Jan/Feb 2019

Compassion

PEACE & JUSTICE



COALITION OF IMMOKALEE WORKERS



Why are farmworkers embarking on the 4 for Fair Food Tour?

By now, you know that farmworkers will be embarking on the 4 for Fair Food Tour from March 2-14, traveling across the nation to four of the country's top public universities – the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Ohio State University in Columbus, and the University of Florida in Gainesville – to join students and community members in calling on these institutions to end their relationships with Wendy's until the fast-food giant joins the award-winning Fair Food Program. Beyond the tour itself, young people, community leaders, and farmworkers are calling for a national boycott of the hamburger chain, demanding that, instead of cheap "4 for \$4" deals, Wendy's put human rights on the menu.

The four flagship state universities that farmworkers will visit on the 4 for Fair Food Tour have a responsibility to send a clear and unequivocal message to Wendy's: Until you put human rights on the menu, you cannot sell food on our campus. Farmworkers, who themselves have confronted first-hand the abuses that take place in the absence of responsibility and leadership from corporations like Wendy's, will join with students and community allies at each university to call for an end to any business relationship with Wendy's until the fast-food giant joins the Fair Food Program.

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Fair Food Program, a unique partnership among farmworkers, growers and major food retailers, has been able to eliminate those same human rights abuses for tens of thousands of farmworkers in the U.S. and has won universal recognition for its unique success, including a Presidential Medal in 2015. Fourteen of the world's largest corporations – including all of Wendy's major competitors, like Burger King and McDonald's, as well as Whole Foods and other supermarkets – have already signed onto the Program, committing to use their market power to ensure that farmworkers are treated with dignity and respect.

Wendy's, on the other hand, has gone out of its way to avoid purchasing from Fair Food Program farms, abandoning Fair Food growers in Florida and instead bouncing from the Mexican agricultural industry to the emerging U.S. greenhouse industry, apparently unconcerned by the conditions of abuse that continue, each day, to plague farmworkers beyond the Fair Food Program.

TO KEEP UP TO DATE ON THE TOUR GO TO <https://ciw-online.org/>

**It's time to show your support–
Join, donate or sign and share.**

In the weeks ahead, as we countdown to the launch of the 4 for Fair Food Tour, make sure to stay tuned for a "Tour Preview," a series of posts taking a closer look at the particular context of this call to action on each campus community. We'll also be providing updates from the advance organizing teams at each school as they ramp up education and mobilization efforts for the big actions in March.

If you're ready to take action right now to support the tour, here's what you can do:

Make plans to [join the tour](#) yourself in North Carolina, Ohio, Michigan or Florida.

[Donate to support the farmworker bus!](#)

Sign and share the [Wendy's Boycott petition](#) as a way to spread the word about the 4 for Fair Food Tour.

Hope is out in the world.....

An empty stable's reminder.

By Donna Frischknecht Jackson, editor of Presbyterians Today.

The old sanctuary was cold and dark. The evergreen was stripped from the balcony and the poinsettias removed from the chancel. Only a few pine needles, which were no match for the church's ancient vacuum.

It was a night basked in warm candlelight and cheerful greetings of "Merry Christmas!" It was a night that had me believing all was calm and all was bright, if not in the world, at least in the rural church I was serving.

Now as I stood in the sanctuary, my belief in brighter days for a struggling congregation had become cold and dark as well. I tried to lift my spirits by trusting that God, who knows the number of hairs on our heads, certainly knows the needs of a little church. I tried but all that kept coming to me was the psalmist's lament: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted in me? And I remembered the psalmist's response: Hope in God... (Psalm 42:5)

I had high hopes for this congregation. Hopes for pews to be filled with young families. Hopes for more people to serve on session, rather than recycling the same names over and over. Hopes for a choir again. None of those hopes, though had materialized. I slumped into a pew allowing the cold dark to dance with my downcast soul. I felt like a failure because I couldn't perform a church-revival miracle. I know the church already has a Savior – Christ our Lord. But I'd already RSVP'd to this pity party. I needed to show up.

That's when I began thinking about the "hope in God" the psalmist told to his disquieted soul. What did that hope look like? And what would this hope in God lead to? Perhaps new eyes to see differently? New beginnings one never would have expected? A new way of defining what a "successful" church is? Could it be that I was looking for hope in all the wrong places?

Just then I heard soft footsteps enter the sanctuary. A girl who had been playing in the snow came in to get warm. She laughed when I told her she had chosen the wrong church to enter.

"We had just enough fuel for Christmas Eve," I said. "But you did have fuel, didn't you, Pastor?" she said. Before I could reply, she looked over toward the corner and exclaimed "How Beautiful!"

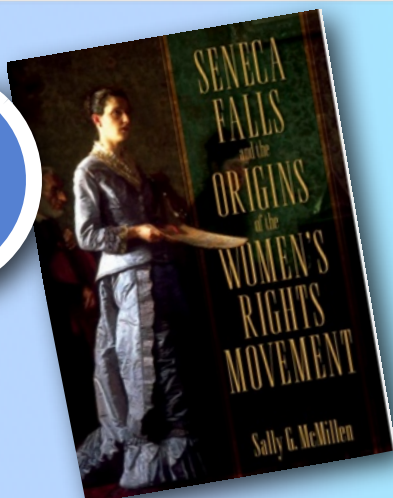
I followed her eyes to the front pew, where I'd left the wooden stable that I'd used for a sermon illustration.

"My father made it for me," I began saying but she wasn't interested in the construction of the stable made of wooden orange crates. What she found mesmerizing was its stark beauty. Mary and Joseph were gone. As were the animals. As was Jesus.

"It reminds me of what you said Christmas Eve. That if we keep Christ in the stable, we miss him out in the world with us.... in our good times and our bad times. I would keep this stable out all the time to remind me that Christ is not where I always want him to be."

Thanks to that child, an empty, orange crate stable sits on my desk year-round. It's a reminder for downcast souls and struggling churches everywhere that what might look hopeless really isn't. God is with us. Yes, hope in God always.

BOOK REVIEW



Seneca Falls and the Origins of the Women's Rights Movement
by Sally McMillen
New York: Oxford, 2008

Part of the *Pivotal Moments in American History* series, this book focuses on key leaders in the fight for women's suffrage from 1840-1890. McMillen focuses on the movement as it emerged in Seneca Falls, New York, and primarily highlights Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucy Stone and Susan B. Anthony. Readers will gain an understanding of the issues that shaped the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, which was the first women's rights convention in the United States. The author reflects critically on the meetings and its players, including the ways that in-fighting, racism, and classism weakened the aims of securing the vote for women.

Compassion PEACE & JUSTICE

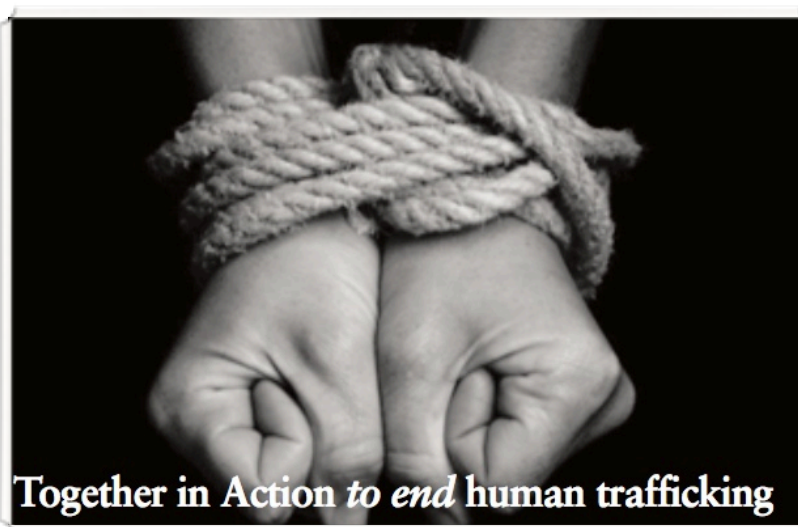
Learn how to Get involved!

Download the PC(USA)'s Human Trafficking Toolkit at <http://www.pcusa.org/humantrafficking>

The toolkit includes several good resources and action ideas.

- Pray for those who are trafficked, their traffickers and those working to create and enforce laws to end trafficking.
- Learn the signs of trafficking. Be alert to situations in which you might identify victims—restaurants, airports, next door, the “red light” district, produce farms, the factories where your clothes are made.
- Learn more by reading articles, taking a quiz to test your trafficking knowledge, finding out what a “human-rights-centered” approach to human trafficking looks like, and more.
- Use websites like PolarisProject.org, TraffickFree.com, SlaveryFootprint.org and LifeboatProject.org to learn more and find actions you can take (like S.O.A.P. campaigns).
- Use resources such as the Support organizations—community centers, libraries, schools, shelters and counseling centers—that can make a difference in at-risk youths’ lives.
- Mentor young people who might be vulnerable to unhealthy attention and risky situations.
- Learn what “safe harbor” laws are and how to get them through your legislature. Lobby Congress to end criminalization of victims.

- See Interfaith Toolkit on Human Trafficking: Resources for Worship and Action by the Washington Inter-Religious Staff Community Working Group on Human Trafficking for what you can do as a faith community.



- Also see the Interfaith Toolkit to End Trafficking from UNICEF.
- Learn about the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct, an industry- driven initiative to combat sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism industries, at www.thecode.org. Order Code Cards from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Human Trafficking Roundtable (email htroundtable@pcusa.org or call 212.697.4568)
- **Support ECPAT-USA, a long-time Presbyterian Women partner.**


ENDING CHILD SLAVERY AT THE SOURCE

Horizons Magazine:

Horizons is just for you because Horizons is about you and your sisters in faith, amazing Presbyterian Women!



January/February 2019 *Identity and Idols*

The cover image of a little girl standing her ground is quite striking. The bull of Wall Street conjures images of growth and prosperity. But the little girl is as powerful in her stance as the bull is resolute in his. As women of faith, we may find ourselves relating to this young person every time we take a stand against a worldly pursuit when that pursuit exploits God's children or world. So what does this have to do with an issue that explores identity? Everything! Our identity in Christ unites us and gives us the firmest of foundations. Everything else—our age, ethnicity, favorite sports team—is still a cause for a celebration. Within these pages, we celebrate our diversity as we are mindful of our shared identity.



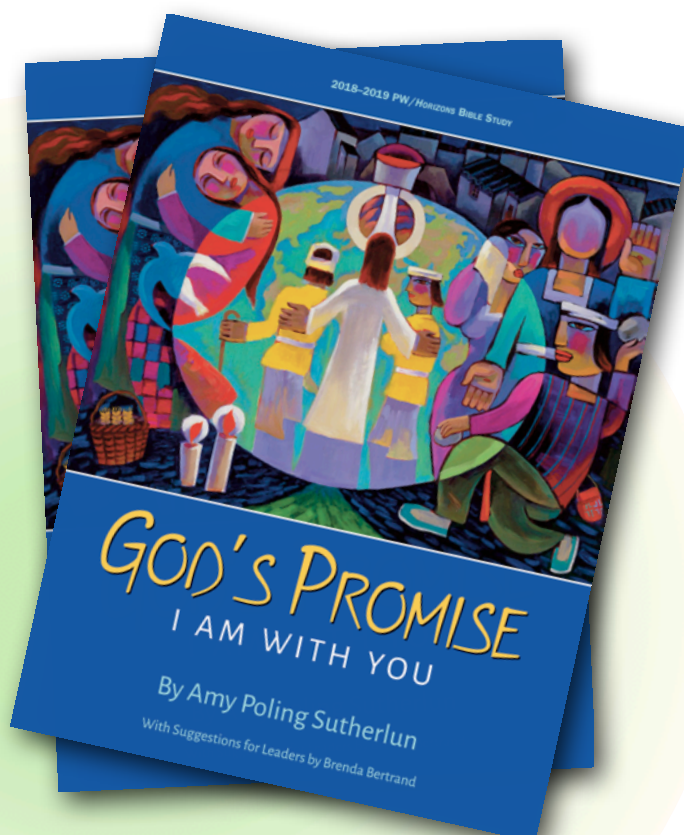
If you wish to subscribe to Horizons Magazine and/or the Bible Study you may contact our representative Marion Gregg-Whited or Diane Nafash at dvnafash@gmail.com or go online to: www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons

2019 Horizons Bible Study

God's Promise: I Am with You

By Amy Poling Sutherland with Suggestions for Leaders by Brenda Bertrand

The 2018—2019 PW/Horizons Bible study, *God's Promise: I Am with You*, takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence but rather on God's actual articulation of God's promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.





For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us . . ." (Romans 12:4-6a NRSV)

This is the theme of the 2018 Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women. Promote the 2018 offering in English- and Spanish-speaking congregations with this bilingual packet of promotional materials featuring recipients, images, and scripture for the 2018 Thank Offering. The printed packet includes a dedication service, promotional poster, order form for additional promotional materials, a descriptive listing of the projects receiving grants in 2018 from the 2017 Thank Offering, and more.

Note: This resource is also available to [download as a PDF](#).

In 2018—thanks to your generous giving to the 2017 Thank Offering—16 projects (12 national and 4 international) will receive grants from the Thank Offering. The Thank Offering provides food and water, alleviates homelessness, provides educational opportunities, promotes health, and improves the lives of women, children and men throughout the world in many other ways.

WHY CHOOSE ECO-PALMS

FOR PALM SUNDAY?

WWW.ECOPALMS.ORG



"LOVE THY NEIGHBOR"

Demonstrating to your congregation the importance of stewardship and helping others through ordering Eco-Palms for Palm Sunday is a simple yet impactful way to show God's love.

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

In partnership with the Rainforest Alliance, Eco-Palm harvesters are shown how to collect the palms in a way that discourages deforestation and keeps the plants healthy.



HELP FAMILIES IN NEED



Many of the people employed by Eco-Palms are women, who use the extra household income to invest in their children's education and health.

SUSTAINABLE INCOME

Eco-Palms provide harvesters with 5-6 times the normal payment per frond. Since the palms are collected in a sustainable way, this ensures that they continue to provide a reliable source of income for generations to come.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



In addition to helping individual families, communities that collect Eco-Palms put the extra money towards building much-needed infrastructure and social programs.

GLOBAL IMPACT

When your church purchases Eco-Palms, it is a small step that has a big global impact, helping protect the environment and families around the world.



Celebrate a sustainable Palm Sunday!

More than 300 million palm fronds are harvested each year for U.S. consumption alone—most of them for Palm Sunday. Protect forests, local jobs, and sustainable livelihoods in the harvesting communities—order your Eco-Palms today!

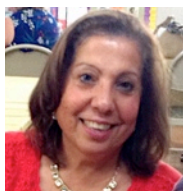
www.pcusa.org/eco-palms

A few words of wisdom.....

Happiness is the new rich.
 Inner peace is the new success.
 Health is the new wealth.
 Kindness is the new cool.

Turn your can't into cans
 and your dreams into plans

Stop worrying
 and pray instead!



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 Adina Yacoub



Treasurer:
 Deborah
 Heatwole



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 Emeritus/programs:**
 Sophie Diaz-
 Corporan



**Communications
 Specialist/
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Meet the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Palisades – COORDINATING TEAM

**We are in need of a
 Co-Editor: OPEN** - 3 year term.

Secretary/Historian:
 OPEN - 3 year term.

Search Committee:
 2 members: OPEN - 1 Yr term.

If you feel called to help us in any of
 these positions, we would be
 delighted to hear from you.



**Justice & Peace/
 Horizon's :**
 Marion Gregg-
 Whited



Registrar:
 Edna Anderson



**Together in
 Service/Mission:**
 Brenda Calloway

**Congratulations
 and many thanks to
 Joyce Thomson for
 her wonderful
 service as Secretary.
 Joyce, you very
 much deserve to be
 honorably retired.**

TOGETHER IN SERVICE REPORTS

DUE ON OR BEFORE 8/1/2019

Please send information about your continued and new mission projects / fundraisers with the name of your church, address, phone, email and contact person. Include pictures of your group while working on a project if available, and feel free to attach any additional information. Send your information to Diane V. Nafash, Email - dvnafash@gmail.com

PLEASE visit the website of PW in the
 Synod of the Northeast
 (www.pwsne.org) for many more
 opportunities for spiritual nurture and
 leadership development.
 ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT PATTERN
 ARE DUE ON AUGUST 1, 2019
 THANK YOU.

PRESBYTERY OF THE PALISADES
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 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH USA
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