



# Quarterly News

## for Presbyterian Women Leaders

Download this resource at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org). Select *About PW*, then select *Quarterly Newsletter*.

April-July 2014

### Presbyterian Women Churchwide .....

#### Work groups progress with plans for the 2015 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

The 2015 PW Churchwide Gathering work groups met in November 2013 in Louisville and again in March 2014 in Minneapolis. At those meetings, planners chose the theme "One Body, One Spirit" (based on the scripture 1 Corinthians 12:12-27), toured the Hyatt Regency (the site selected for the Gathering) to identify locations for Gathering functions and events, and made other key decisions.

Gathering planners are doing everything in their power to be conscientious about budget constraints, yet still plan an excellent Gathering. The support of all PW leaders is more critical than ever. Everyone is called upon to promote attendance at this Gathering, help women find creative ways to fund their trip and invite women of all ages to attend.

Planners emailed a survey to thousands of Presbyterian women several days prior to the CCT meeting. It is clear from the results of this survey



that women across the country consider a national Gathering a priority. Women value the opportunity to learn together, sing and worship together, and meet women from across the nation and globe. See page 6 for comments from the survey.

#### Key decisions

- **Registration is just \$395** (less than in 2012) (a single day is \$125).
- **Rooms at the Hyatt are \$169**, plus tax, for up to four people.

See "Gathering," page 6

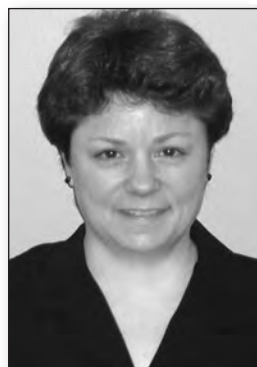
#### Susan Jackson-Dowd named executive director, Presbyterian Women

By **Mary Cook Jorgenson**

*PW Churchwide Moderator*

At the March 2014 meeting of the Churchwide Coordinating Team, Susan Jackson-Dowd was named executive director of Presbyterian Women, Inc. (PW). Susan has served PW for 19 years, stepping into the role of communications coordinator in 2000.

Following Ann Ferguson's retirement as program coordinator last year, Susan worked closely with elected leadership and PW staff to merge the program and communications staffs into a single PW staff. Susan's leadership and support of PW was essential to bringing about a cohesive and sustainable staffing model. Susan has also coordinated efforts to reduce administrative costs. Susan is working with the denomination to negotiate new service and lease agreements, reducing inventory and



Susan Jackson-Dowd

updating print practices, while completing transfer of personnel to PW, Inc.

Susan travels extensively for PW, presenting workshops and keynotes, leading installation services and facilitating groups. She has represented PW to church and ecumenical partners throughout the United States and globally. Susan serves as chair for the World Day of Prayer USA board and as consultant for the International Committee for Fellowship of the Least Coin. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism/radio television, a master's in Christian education and a doctorate in leadership education. Susan serves as an assistant professor in Spalding University's doctor of education program in Louisville. She teaches dissertation writing and systems theory. Susan and her husband, Scott, are members of Highland Presbyterian Church, Louisville, Kentucky.

**Don't miss what's inside! • Churchwide Gathering plans! • Living the Gospel through advocacy • Justice and Peace calendar • Thank Offering update • Highlights from the Churchwide gathering survey • What's on the horizon for Horizons • and more!**

## PW in Synod of Southern California/Hawaii take action against human trafficking

By Jeri Rodewald

In cooperation with Soroptomists and the Feminist Agenda Network (F.A.N.), Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California/Hawaii gathered for the second annual PW Together in Action Days, hosting an event on human trafficking on Saturday, January 11. Following up from the 2013 event that included Carol Smolenski of ECPAT (End Child Prostitution and Trafficking) and a panel of representatives from organizations in Southern California, it was a challenge for leaders to provide as stimulating an afternoon. But they did!

Our keynote speaker was Sandra Morgan of Vanguard University's Global Center for Women and Justice in Costa Mesa, California, who has advocated on behalf of trafficked persons for over 30 years, overseas and here in the United States. Her vibrancy and commitment are contagious. We shouted out to her, periodically, the national toll-free hotline number, 888.373.7888, which should be used to report situations that professionals will check—we were warned never to do the checking ourselves! The Polaris Project answers the 888 number. Sandra told us to put the number into our cell phones. And she suggested that Matthew 28 ("Go, therefore . . .") could be restated "As you go . . ." As we go, as we become aware of something that needs to be done, we do it. We don't have to go out looking for that particular something. It is out there wherever we are.

"Prevention—protection—prosecution—partnership" were her four watchwords, with the reminder that resources and expertise meet a need. There is internet safety training on the web: netsmartz.org. The U.S. Department of Labor (dol.gov) has a child labor report available, as well as other helpful information on employment. In the state of California, there are 12 categories of businesses that are required to display signs in their establishments. This particular sign states, "Look Beneath the Surfaces," and they are available free. It would take only an afternoon to list a dozen establishments that should be displaying signs, check them out and give them a poster! Other states most likely have similar requirements to alert customers and passersby to the importance of reporting suspicious behavior. What is the number to call? 888.373.7888!

As we all know, the issue of trafficking is huge and impacts our lives daily. Our discussion incorporated sweat shops, equal exchange, all of those economic issues that we struggle with



Sandra Morgan

and that impact each of our lives daily.

The second part of our afternoon together was the presentation of *Body and Sold*. It was written by Deborah Lake Fortson, from interviews conducted 2003–2007 in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Boston, Hartford and New York. A local Soroptomist Club purchased the rights to produce the play for \$250. PWS "actresses" (and one actor) presented the full play as a Readers' Theatre, which worked very well. A sobering, realistic production of women and men who have been caught in the sex trafficking world. It has played in 30 cities across the United States at colleges, theaters, and social agencies. Contact can be made with the author in Boston at [tempest@rcn.com](mailto:tempest@rcn.com).

Both Day of Action programs were sponsored jointly by the three groups. Presbyterians aren't alone in seeking to stamp out trafficking—working together with other groups gives us strength in more numbers and keeps us alert to more options. Sandra Morgan reminded us that "it is only going to stop when everyone is involved." And . . . once again, when you see something questionable, what's the number to call? 888.373.7888.

### Thank-you from CCT moderator to staff

In the past year, the Presbyterian Women staff in Louisville has lost one part-time and three full-time positions through retirement, resignation and reduction in force. Yet, the work to resource our constituency with leadership materials, mission support, advocacy initiatives and prize-winning publications has continued.

Our gifted and hard working staff has absorbed these additional work responsibilities and continues to introduce new projects, programs and ideas. And, they do it with energy, imagination and commitment to all of us and to the PW Purpose. I am grateful for the work that our staff does every day on behalf of all of us.

### Six synod representatives rotate off CCT

By Mary Cook Jorgenson, CCT moderator

At its spring 2014 meeting, March 27–30, the Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT) of Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc. bid a fond *adieu* to six members who are rotating off the board in July—(pictured left to right) Magdalene Lewis, Carol Winkler, Judith Lovejoy, Sue Medsker-Nedderman, Doreen Der-McLeod and Gloria Moorman. The other 28 CCT members and staff in attendance learned fun facts about the six, like who has a beauty pageant in her past, who played basketball in school and who was married during a Sunday service. We thank them many times over for their CCT service!

**Note:** See CCT meeting summary, page 3.



## Highlights of PW's churchwide coordinating team spring meeting

### Administrative Committee

- Due to a vacancy in the position of PW program coordinator and to PW's evolving budgetary and operational needs, the staff is now led by an executive director selected via separate action to serve as president of the corporation.
- CCT approved a charter for a personnel subcommittee of the Administrative Committee that becomes effective on the date staff dedicated to the work of Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Inc. transfer employment from PC(USA) to PW, Inc. That is expected to happen June 1, 2014.
- The renewal of the covenant agreement (now called the Institutional Relationship Agreement) between PW, Inc. and PC(USA) was received by the Presbytery Mission Agency Board at their February 2014 meeting and forwarded to General Assembly for approval.

### Leadership Enhancement (LEC)

- LEC recommends that PW leaders continue to promote the resource *Practicing God's Radical Hospitality*. This valuable resource can be shared in a variety of ways—presbytery and synod gatherings, adult education/spiritual formation, circles, session meetings, welcoming committees. Order item PWR13060 through PDS, 800.524.2612 or [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store). \$9 plus shipping.
- LEC firmly believes that the PW Purpose should drive the structure of PW programs in local congregations, rather than structure driving programming, mission or purpose. Therefore, a cover letter will accompany each PW manual as it is ordered, to correct the misperception that PW in local congregations must operate within the PW structure as described in the manual. This letter also will be sent to PWP and PWS moderators.
- CCT and PW staff will correspond with NNPCW and REWYT regarding their plans for continuing their relationship with PW. Three vacancies exist and should be filled, not only for representation on CCT, but also for CCT's active support of young women in the PC(USA).

- LEC and ARC completed the required triennial demographic survey of PWP and PWS coordinating teams in December 2013. Information collected in this survey will be compared to information collected in the 2010 survey. LEC and ARC will analyze the data and develop a report for presentation at the September 2014 CCT meeting.
- LEC will support the expansion of the Sisters Stand and Walk Together Program in additional synods or presbyteries. Mentoring and developing immigrant women and new citizens as leaders in their new home environment is an important ministry for PW. These women may have exercised leadership skills in their homeland and, with guidance or development, can share their gifts in their new communities.

### Antiracism Committee (ARC)

- PW will sponsor, in principle, the 16th Annual White Privilege Conference, to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, in March 2015. ARC members who have attended the conference affirm its relevance in assisting ARC to effectively lead the process of change for PW. As an organization that declared its commitment to antiracism in 2000, PW can make its commitment to racial justice visible in a public space by sponsoring this conference.
- ARC held its annual meeting at the Highlander Research and Education Center October 10–14, 2013. A meeting scheduled for April 2014 was postponed due to PW's financial situation. The committee hopes to meet prior to October 2014 in order to restructure its plans for moving forward with its work.
- A demographic survey, a joint project of ARC and LEC, has been conducted. See LEC report for details.
- ARC created a closed Facebook interest group called Racial Justice Allies in July 2013 to invite others to work with ARC. The group, which has 120 members, serves to raise issues, allow information sharing, provide support and encourage dialogue. If you are interested in joining, please email [yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org](mailto:yvonne.hileman@pcusa.org). ARC also added a blog, *Manna for the March* (<http://pwpcusa.typepad>

[.com/racialjustice](http://pwpcusa.typepad.com/racialjustice)), to allow deeper engagement of issues.

### Communications Coordination Committee

- The Communications Coordination Committee is progressing with website migration from the PC(USA) web structure. Marketplace functions will move in late summer.
- PW staff is progressing with an electronic version of the *Horizons* Bible study, beginning with *Reconciling Paul* later this year.

### Creative Ministries Offering Committee

- See page 7 for information on the Thank Offering.
- The committee is revising the application for the Thank and Birthday offerings. Future proposals will be required to have an endorsement letter from a PW group (whether in the local church, the presbytery or synod).
- The committee has decided to offer a second *Legacy Christmas* CD in 2014, in partnership with Living Waters for the World. To date, about \$95,000 has been collected for the first *Legacy Christmas* CD. Proceeds benefit both PW and LWW. Suggestions for the future include CDs of beloved hymns and Gospel music.

### Mission Relationships (MRC)

- MRC will accept an invitation from PW in San Francisco and San José presbyteries for the 2016 USAME trip.
- MRC will send a representative to Bread for the World's 40th Anniversary Meeting and Lobby Day in D.C., June 9–10, 2014.
- The in-gathering mission project at the 2015 Churchwide Gathering will be the collection of \$10 (minimum) Target gift cards for the American Indian Family Center, St. Paul, for their maternal/child health and nutrition program. This recipient was chosen because of their work on behalf of mothers' and children's health in the first 1,000 days of a child's life, consistent with CCT priorities. PW is asking Target to be a sponsor of the 2015 Gathering.
- PW/PDA's Mission Trip to New York City August 3–9, 2014, is open to men and women, as well as teens accompanied by an adult.

See "CCT meeting," page 5

## Save the dates: Presbyterian Women travel study/advocacy opportunities in 2014

### Mothers' Day Project 2014!

Healthy Women Healthy Families is a year-round PC(USA) ministry supporting Presbyterian partner churches' programs around the globe that promote health, education and development of women and children. By participating in the annual Healthy Women Healthy Families Mother's Day Project, Presbyterians honor women in their lives with cards and donations that in turn provide prenatal and essential obstetric services, trauma healing and psychosocial support, early-childhood health and nutrition programs, health and hygiene education, fistula repair surgery, disease prevention and medical services and more to families in dire need. To order cards and promotional materials for 2014, email [toni.roppel@pcusa.org](mailto:toni.roppel@pcusa.org) in the PC(USA)'s World Mission office, or call 800.728.7228, ext. 5279. Give throughout the year at [www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E052136](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/E052136).

### Women of the Reformation Tour, September 3–11, 2014

Encounter Presbyterians' faith heritage: visit Reformation sites in Geneva, Switzerland, and southern France, and join United Protestant Church of France congregations at their annual Assemblée de Desert worship, September 7. The 2014 Women of the Reformation tour, led by Mary Cook Jorgenson and Hillary Mohaupt, will visit historical sites related to the Reformation, with particular emphasis on women's role in the Reformation. The tour will include four nights in Geneva and four nights in Sommieres, France. Participants will arrive and depart Geneva. Cost: \$1,850 per person, sharing a room. The cost includes room, meals, local transportation and museum entry fees. Email [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org) for more info.

### New resource in support of Roma now online

*Prayer and Thanksgiving for the Roma 2014* is now available as a downloadable pdf on the PC(USA) website. Visit [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) and enter "Roma devotional 2014" in the search box. The 2014 devotional includes a liturgy, prayers, poems and suggested reading.

## Justice and Peace

### Work to end violence against women now and all year!

"The missing Millennium Development Goal"—that's what ending violence against women was called at the 58th UN Commission on the Status of Women. UNCSW58 was held in March to look at challenges and achievements in the implementation of the MDGs for women and girls. Violence against women and girls (VAWG) was a hot topic and is a focus for PW's work nationally. What you can do:

- Work to end human trafficking all year long, not just in January! Hold educational events, discussions, worship services and other actions. For additional ideas, download the *Human Trafficking Toolkit* at [www.pcusa.org/humantrafficking](http://www.pcusa.org/humantrafficking) and visit [www.polaris.org](http://www.polaris.org).
- Use free postcards to urge lawmakers to ratify CEDAW, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. CEDAW is the landmark international agreement that affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women all around the world. The United States is one of only seven nations that have not ratified the agreement. Order item PWR11227 from PDS

### Mission Trip to New York City, August 3–9, 2014

PW is working with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to organize a mission trip to New York City. This will be a hands-on work experience to assist with the rebuilding of New York as a result of the damage inflicted by Hurricane Sandy. Lodging and meals will be provided by First Presbyterian Church, Jamaica, Queens. The cost of this trip is \$220 per person, including six nights' accommodations, all meals, a group leader and administrative costs. To apply, email [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org) or call 888.728.7228, ext. 5402.



Nadine Hill, Marvella Lambright and Rita Hooper visited the Brethren Service Center in March for a PW-sponsored volunteer service trip, followed by participation in Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington. Brethren Service Center is the distribution point for many of the hands-on mission projects that PWs work on, including clean-up kits for PDA, new mother/baby kits for IMA, and health and hygiene kits.

(800.524.2612 or [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store)).

- Observe Orange Day, the 25th of every month. Wear orange to raise awareness and work for an end to violence against women and girls. Join UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon's campaign UNite to End Violence against Women—<http://endviolence.un.org>.
- Check the justice and peace blog at <http://pwpcusa.typepad.com/jandp>. Wanda Beauman has a wonderful story there called "Ring the Bell."
- Visit PW's Justice and Peace web pages for more on what you can do—[www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice). While you are there, subscribe to the electronic newsletter, *J&P Links*.

### Justice and Peace Calendar

May 1—Solidarity with Immigrant Workers/Families	June 14–21—221st GA
May 25—Orange Day	June 25—Orange Day
May 26—Memorial Day	July 4—Independence Day
	July 25—Orange Day

## Supporting the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women, one *Horizons* reader at a time!

Tucked into the new *Horizons* subscription card and renewal letter is an opportunity to add extra \$\$ over and above the subscription price to lend support to the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women. The ongoing response just confirms what everyone in the church already knows: Presbyterian women—and *Horizons* readers, in particular—never miss an opportunity to care much and give generously!

A special thank-you to the following readers who have responded generously to support so much! This list reflects

Rosemary Almy  
Cheryl Banks  
Harlan K. Bellinger  
LouiseBlumenstock  
Marolyn Bode  
Cynthia Cameron  
Thylis Chambless  
Song Hee Chun  
Melva W. Costen  
Frances M. Daniel  
Anne Clark Duncan  
Gwendolyn M. Edwards  
Hope E. Everhart  
Pat Fisher  
Alfreida Garner  
Fredrika Groff

Pauline Grose  
Benjamin F. Gutierrez  
Linda J. Hagan  
Dorothy D. Horcher  
Phyllis Hunter  
Marilyn Johnston  
Sandy Kahn  
Alberta Kimbrough  
Elizabeth Knott  
B. Joyce Lawson  
Hedwig N. Lodwick  
June S. MacDonald  
Jeanne S. MacPhail  
Reyna Mairena  
Margaret S. Marks  
Joann Martin

donations processed from January 1, 2014 through March 30, 2014, while *subscribing, renewing or gifting a subscription*. Many Presbyterian women have contributed outside the subscription program and they are thanked, too, but are not listed below. (You may donate each time you renew, subscribe or give a gift subscription. You also may send a separate tax-deductible gift, "Donation to publishing mission" in the memo line, to Publishing Mission, Presbyterian Women, Inc., PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652.)

Frankie McCain  
Laurie A. McNeill  
Winnifred A. Moore  
Beatrice P. Payne  
Eleanor Phillips  
Virginia Ritchie  
Bonnie Routh  
Marabeth Russell  
Sylvia Ryder  
Lois J. Saathoff  
Dary Shenefelt  
Lou J. Shepherd  
Mary Jane Skinner  
Tamara L. Sparks  
Mary Staahl  
Virginia Stanton

Arvilla Stoddard  
John L. Tait  
Ruth Turnage  
Sally Van Bokkelen  
Jeanne Voigt  
Mary Wallis  
Wheat Ridge Presbyterian  
Church, Wheat Ridge, IL  
Eloise White  
Charlotte White  
Pauline R. Wilkerson  
Nancy Williamson  
Carol Winkler  
Merlie Woolcock  
Alyce F. Wyatt

### CCT meeting, continued from page 3

MRC recommends this as an opportunity for youth groups. Email [katharine.reeves@pcusa.org](mailto:katharine.reeves@pcusa.org) for an application (deadline is July 18). Cost: \$220 per person, plus transportation.

- MRC will participate in a consultation between PW and African New Immigrant Presbyterian Women.

### Justice and Peace Committee (J&P)

- J&P will send a letter to former President Jimmy Carter commending his work on women's issues and his call to action to end the world's discrimination and violence against women and girls.
- The committee, in conjunction with MRC, commended Indian Family Center in St. Paul as the recipient of the 2015 Churchwide Gathering gift card offering.
- J&P plans to form a roundtable of PW justice and peace contacts working in presbyteries and synods, to share information about events like Ecumenical Advocacy Days and the UN Commission on the Status of Women, initiatives like Orange Days, We Will Speak Out, and Millennium Development Goals, and issues like gun violence and the prison "pipeline." The roundtable will rely

on a strong partnership among synod reps and REMALS from the CCT.

- Though the United States has not ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, cities can adopt the principles of CEDAW, using them to guide local law and policies. PW encourages cities to take this action. Learn more about CEDAW at [www.pcusa.org/resource/justice-and-peace-linksconvention-elimination-all](http://www.pcusa.org/resource/justice-and-peace-linksconvention-elimination-all). Visit Cities for CEDAW on Facebook.
- The committee continues to champion maternal and child nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life through the PW/PC(USA) 1,000 Days Roundtable, initiated by PW CCT. Visit [www.bread.org/hunger/maternal-child-nutrition/women-of-faith-for-the-1000.html](http://www.bread.org/hunger/maternal-child-nutrition/women-of-faith-for-the-1000.html) for a list of ways that you can advocate on this issue.
- The committee recommends the *Zionism Unsettled*, a study guide created by the Israel Palestine Mission Network, as a way to promote understanding of the complex issues facing the people of Israel/Palestine. Order item 2646614001 through PDS, 800.524.2612 or [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store). \$10 plus shipping; bulk discounts available for more than 9 copies.



**Register Now and Save**

[www.presbyterianmission.org/multicultural](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/multicultural)

**15th National  
Multicultural  
Conference**

*Luke 24:13-34*

*July 31 to August 3 with  
July 30 pre-conference events*

Hilton Fort Worth, 815 Main St.  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

For more information, please,  
visit [www.pcusa.org/multicultural](http://www.pcusa.org/multicultural)  
or call the office of Multicultural  
Congregational Support at  
800-728-7228, ext. 5089



## Gathering planners offer additional details on 2015; nearly a thousand women respond to survey

### Additional information from Gathering planning

- Global Partners will arrive Wednesday, June 17, and will dine with Native American sisters. On June 18, Global Partners will be introduced at the Business Meeting, will tour the Church of All Nations, and will receive an orientation.
- Local mission tours for attendees will be offered on Friday and Saturday afternoons, with buses to various mission sites and an interpreter on each bus to discuss the site.
- Daily themes are: "One Body, One Spirit" (Thursday evening), "Oneness in the Community of Faith" (Friday morning), "Oneness in Creation" (Saturday morning), "Oneness Among Women" (Saturday evening), "Oneness in the Global Community" (Sunday morning).
- Each plenary session will include a spiritual reflection based on a small group Bible study resource related to the Gathering theme.
- Three PW Bible study authors (2015, 2016 and 2017) will be featured in plenary.
- Attendees will choose educational opportunities in three time slots both Friday and Saturday, with 10 opportunities in each time slot.
- The Spirituality Center and Clothesline Project will be placed in prominent locations.
- The Activities Hall and dining room will both be in the exhibit hall; attendees will walk through the Activities Hall to reach the dining room, thus giving the exhibitors more exposure.
- The plenary and program work groups will use some of the same presenters so that expenses can be shared.
- Those not able to attend are urged to sponsor someone else. Let's make it happen!

### Sample comments from recent Gathering survey

- It is a wonderful way to communicate how God is working through PW.
- Unless you have experienced a Gathering, it is difficult to explain how great they are.
- Think outside the box and hug the cutting edge!
- It's a very uplifting, exciting, spiritual experience. Have only been once, look forward to going again!
- Needs to be disabled friendly with plenty of elevators and rooms for the disabled.
- Attending my first CWG when I was a young mother nearly 40 years ago . . . changed my life. I worked for the next 38 years to motivate women (men and whoever was our pastor at the time) to attend CWG. And it happened. I'm starting to talk about it in the church we attend. Hope to get some of the younger women to attend.
- Please do not cancel the PW Churchwide Gathering. It is one refreshing event I attend every three years. It is where my soul is nurtured and re-energized. The list of reasons to join PW needs to be publicized and used in creative ways to promote PW to Presbyterians.
- I liked it when it was in Louisville because that is where the church headquarters are.
- Although I miss them terribly, it is not possible for me to afford the trips.
- It is the best conference the PC(USA) has to offer!
- Reducing the cost of registration fees would make attending the national meetings feasible for some of us.
- I pray more women could have the opportunity to attend and see for themselves the wonderful things God is doing through the ministry of Presbyterian women. Many women

have no idea the amazing things we do and the international connections that are made in God's service.

- I enjoy seeing other sites but I place the changes in location low on my list of priorities when it come to my commitment to PW.
- I am hopeful that we make plans that will encourage the pew members to come to "the mountain" (our national Gatherings) to be motivated, inspired, and more supportive of our mission and programming.
- This is a very important event for me. I plan to come to it every time, as long as I can. It builds my spirit, gives me ideas to take home, and makes me proud of our connectional church.



## Many opportunities to changes lives, support mission through Presbyterian Women!

### 2014 Thank Offering recipients chosen

The Creative Ministries Offering Committee met in Louisville in February to review 62 Thank Offering grant applications. Committee members read the proposals, ranked them and discussed them until there was consensus on whether to fund a project. International projects were vetted by PC(USA) mission staff. CMOC decided to fund 30 of the 62 proposals. Grants total \$689,125. Forty-one percent of this total, or \$280,895, will fund projects promoting health ministries in the United States and overseas. Health ministries range from hospice care in Virginia to drinking water in India.

Other projects range from transitional housing for those in emergency shelter and afterschool programs to a program that assesses the impact of the criminal justice system. Grant amounts ranged from \$4,528 to \$50,000. Of the 30 projects funded, 17 are for projects that will serve communities in the United States and 13 for those that will serve communities overseas.

Your generous gifts to the Thank Offering are making a difference in people's lives here and in other parts of the world. Hebrews 10:24 captures what the Thank Offering allows us to do: "Let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works."

### PW Honorary Life Memberships

Honorary Life Memberships are a beautiful way to honor the special women in our PW lives, women who have mentored us and/or transformed our circles, congregations, presbyteries and synods through their faithful service. If you would like to present someone with a PW Honorary Life Membership, there are two options: the sterling silver level at \$95 and the gold level at \$250. Contact Nancy McWhorter at 888.728.7228, ext. 8014, or nancy.mcwhorter@pcusa.org, for more information. Funds support leadership development and training.

### 2014 Birthday Offering

In late February 2014, every PC(USA) congregation received a 2014 Birthday Offering packet addressed to "PW/Women's Group." If you know of someone who should have received a packet and did not, you can request one by calling PDS at 800.524.2612 (ask for item PWR14451), or download the packet from the PW website at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday). Email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org) to ensure the PW database contains up-to-date contact information.



*Volunteers with CHEW, a 2014 Thank Offering recipient in Wilson County, North Carolina, pull food for hungry schoolchildren.*

### Mission Pledge gifts

Why should I encourage giving to the PW Mission Pledge? The simple answer: Because gifts to the Mission Pledge support mission and ministry work for each program area of PW: mission partnerships and projects, leadership enhancement, publishing, justice and peace—nothing is excluded. Mission Pledge gifts also support the mission of the PC(USA) worldwide and PW's common operating expenses. As with

all gifts given to PW, each gift is stewarded prayerfully and faithfully. For information, email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org). Thank you for promoting giving to PW mission and ministry!

### Celebrate PW's 25th anniversary with a gift!

It's PW's 25th anniversary! One of the best ways to celebrate is to ensure that PW can continue its life-changing work for the next 25 years and beyond. You can do that through the \$25 for 25 fundraising campaign; all gifts benefit the Mission Pledge of Presbyterian Women, which supports every PW mission and ministry. Donate online ([www.presbyterianwomen.org/missionpledge](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/missionpledge)) or send your gift to PW Remittance Processing, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652. Include "PW \$25 for 25" in the check's memo line. Questions? Call 888.728.7228, ext. 8015, or email [patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org](mailto:patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org).

In some synods, donors have agreed to match gifts received from individuals and groups in their synod, up to certain amounts (see chart below). Three synods still need matching donors. If you or someone you know is interested in making matching gifts to those received from individuals and groups in your synod, please contact Susan Jackson-Dowd, [susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org](mailto:susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org).



Synod Name	Matching Donor	Match/Challenge Amount	Giving To-Date
Synod of Alaska/Northwest	<i>no matching donor yet</i>		\$813
Synod of Boriquen (Puerto Rico)	Marta Rodríguez	\$3,000	\$175
Synod of the Covenant	Florence/Elliot Morrison	\$1,250	\$4,450
Synod of Lakes and Prairies	Trudi Nelson	\$5,000	\$13,425
Synod of Lincoln Trails	Betty Mack	\$10,000	\$2,870
Synod of Living Waters	PW Staff	\$1,000	\$3,025
Synod of Mid-America	Anonymous	\$5,000 (if \$1,000 is raised)	\$1,746
Synod of the Mid-Atlantic	Margaret Anderson	\$1,250	\$4,945
	Ellen Newbold	\$1,250 (if 50 \$25 gifts are received)	
Synod of the Northeast	Lucy Janjigian	\$3,000	\$5,085
Synod of the Pacific	Cynthia Joe	\$10,000	\$4,720
Synod of the Rocky Mountains	<i>no matching donor yet</i>		\$1,856
Synod of South Atlantic	Anonymous	\$5,000	\$8,793
Synod of Southern California/Hawaii	Gerry Tayler	\$10,000	\$5,442
Synod of the Southwest	<i>no matching donor yet</i>		\$600
Synod of the Sun	Kathy Randall	\$1,000	\$10,670
Synod of the Trinity	Katie Blume	\$1,250	\$1,562

### Shipping spike for Puerto Rico

"What goes up must eventually come down." This old adage holds true for gravity-bound items, but probably not for the cost of shipping. PWs who live outside the continental U.S. may have noticed a bit of an increase in their tab to have an item shipped to them from various vendors. But our Puerto Rican PWs must now pay international rates to ship their *Horizons* studies and other PW materials via UPS and Federal Express.

Shipping internationally is pricey. Although we are working to find a workaround, the only other alternative is to ship via the United States Postal Service (USPO), which does not offer the rich tracking options available through UPS and Federal Express. The former PDS shipping formula (10% of total, \$5.25 minimum, \$65.00 maximum) no longer applies.

This "rendering to Caesar" business wasn't painless in biblical times and certainly isn't today. Although PW and PDS continue to try to find workarounds and more affordable shipping options, for PWs who must now pay international shipping rates, please do anticipate a sharp increase as you plan for gatherings and circles.

### Planning a trip this year?

Wherever you are this year, whether it's Moscow or Minnesota, let's play "Where's *Horizons*?" Inspired by the *Where's Waldo?* series of books, we invite you to send in a photo of yourself or someone else reading *Horizons* magazine. Email [carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org) with "Where's *Horizons*?" in the subject line. Please include your name and location. We will publish on Facebook, Pinterest and more.



### Dear *Horizons* reps,

Can you believe that the spring and summer gathering seasons are upon us? Seems like just yesterday many of us were dealing with polar vortexes and other wintery phenomena!

So here we are in the season of daffodils and tulips (and soon, roses and summer squashes)! As you plan to promote *Horizons* magazine and Bible study at upcoming gatherings, consider contacting Carissa in the PW office for a special subscription offer that she will tailor specifically to your gathering. These special offers are very specific to your event. If you think a special offer form will be useful to you, contact Carissa via email ([carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org)).



### In Memory .....

### Long-time mission and offerings staff specialist passes peacefully at 81

Jean McGeoch Cutler, 81, died peacefully Monday, April 8, at St. Andrews Presbyterian Home in Indiana, Pennsylvania, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

She was born in 1933 in Pontiac, Michigan, and graduated from Westminster College in 1955 with a BA in mathematics and a minor in sociology.

Jean lived with a courageous spirit and a caring soul. She had three distinct seasons in her adult life. She began as a junior high math teacher in Kittanning, Pennsylvania. In 1960, she began raising her family of three children, substitute teaching and serving in various leadership roles in the Presbyterian Church. In 1988, she boldly relocated to Louisville, Kentucky, to work for the newly merged Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as associate for Presbyterian Women in their offerings program. There, she fulfilled her passion for mission work through the Creative Ministries



Jean Cutler

Offering Committee, helping fund mission projects around the world. She visited hospitals in Malawi and Kenya, attended international meetings in Japan and North America, and travelled to Mexico where she drank one of the two first cups of clean water drawn through the purifying device funded by PW. She retired in 2003.

Jean could spot beauty in the everyday. She captured joy in her painting, her gardening, and through her domestic and international travels. She loved being with her children and grandchildren and looked for any occasion to help other people.

Jean is survived by her children: Andy Cutler, Lynne Inness and Valerie Wilson, and her sister, Esther Shane. The family is grateful to the team at St. Andrews for their gentle and respectful care.

The memorial service was held Saturday, April 12, at Calvary Presbyterian Church, Indiana, Pennsylvania. Internment was in Fair Oaks cemetery in Lawrence County, Pennsylvania.

The family suggests memorial contributions to the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.



## Justice/peace issues at GA and throughout the year

PW's Justice and Peace Committee encourages all PW leaders to support the following overtures and resolutions submitted by the Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns (ACWC), Advocacy Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) and various presbyteries to the 221st General Assembly (2014).

The overtures and resolutions address

- the protection of children from sexual exploitation (Overture 09-03, New York City Presbytery)
- developing a comprehensive social witness policy on human trafficking as a human rights issue (Resolution Com-012, ACWC)
- support for hotel and hospitality workers through the adoption of just policies in the PC(USA) (Resolution Com-011, ACWC)
- child/youth protection policies in the PC(USA), including updating materials and amending the Book of Order to require councils to implement the policies (Resolution Com-13, ACWC)
- taking meaningful action to reduce gun violence (Overture 09-01, Presbytery of National Capital; also see Overture 09-07, Hudson River Presbytery)
- affirming the importance of maternal and child nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life, and the partnership between PC(USA), the Hunger Program, and Bread for the World's Women of Faith for the 1,000 Days campaign (Overture 09-11, National Capital Presbytery)
- witness for the freedom and self-determination of the Palestinian people (Overture 04-03, Grace Presbytery)
- supporting efforts to end the continuing problem of sexual assault within the U.S. military (Resolution COM-16, ACSWP)

See <http://pc-biz.org> for details on overtures and resolutions. There is a quick-reference guide to using PC-biz under the resource tab. To see the entire list of

business before the 221st GA, use the explorer tab, with 221st GA chosen as the event, and no keywords or committees chosen. From there, it is easy to click on a listed item to see the desired document.

Advocacy actions PW's Justice and Peace Committee recommends year-round:

- Learn more about the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and lobby for its ratification by the United States. Go to [www.pcusa.org/resource/justice-and-peace-linksconvention-elimination-all](http://www.pcusa.org/resource/justice-and-peace-linksconvention-elimination-all). Visit Cities for CEDAW on Facebook. Order free postcards from PDS to send a message to lawmakers—item PWR11227 (800.524.2612 or [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store)).
- Participate in Orange Days to raise awareness of and work to end all forms of violence against women (<http://endviolence.un.org/orangeday.shtml>). Order orange PW-logo shirts (\$28) from PDS (800.524.2612, or type "PW orange" into the search box at [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store)). Available in sizes S through 6X.
- Use *Zionism Unsettled*, a study guide created by the Israel Palestine Mission Network, as a way to promote understanding of the complex issues facing the people of Israel/Palestine. Order item 2646614001 through PDS, 800.524.2612 or [www.pcusa.org/store](http://www.pcusa.org/store). \$10 plus shipping; bulk discounts available for more than nine copies.
- Learn about Women of Faith for the 1,000 Days, an effort by Bread for the World and its ecumenical partners to raise awareness of and work to ensure adequate nutrition for children and their mothers in the first 1,000 days of a child's life. Visit [www.bread.org/hunger/maternal-child-nutrition/women-of-faith-for-the-1000.html](http://www.bread.org/hunger/maternal-child-nutrition/women-of-faith-for-the-1000.html) for a list of ways that you can advocate on this issue. Learn more about 1,000 Days at [www.thousanddays.org](http://www.thousanddays.org).

The screenshot shows the Presbyterian Church (USA) Explorer website. The search filter is set to "COM-013". The search results list several resolutions, with the first one being the selected item:

**COM-013 A Resolution to Address Child/Youth Protection Policies and Resources in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)—From the Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns (ACWC).**

**Source:** Committee      **Sponsor:** Advocacy Committee on Womens Concerns  
**Committee:** No Assignment      **Type:** General Assembly Full Consideration  
**Topic:** Unassigned

<http://pc-biz.org/Explorer.aspx?id=4763>

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Advocacy Committee for Women's Concerns (ACWC) recommends that the 221st General Assembly (2014) do the following:

1. Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency, with the aid of the Child Advocacy Office, to create new/updated resources concerning Child measures in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that can be available for synods, presbyteries, and individual churches. (We request that from the PC(USA) and not just direction to other denominational resources.)

- Be part of PW's pledge to hold 1,000 conversations around the importance of maternal and child nutrition. Fill a "Jar of Conversations" with slips of paper that have facts related to the 1,000 days. Invite women to pull a slip of paper containing a fact and share it with at least five other women. If you need conversation starters, contact Carol Winkler ([winksmama@gmail.com](mailto:winksmama@gmail.com)) for a list of more than 100 facts you can use.
- Learn more about prisons as profit centers and the effect this has on society. Read the resolution approved by the 215th GA (2003) for churchwide study and implementation, which makes clear that private prisons are a deep religious and ethical issue. Download at [www.pcusa.org/resource/resolution-calling-abolition-profit-private-prison](http://www.pcusa.org/resource/resolution-calling-abolition-profit-private-prison).
- Start planning now for the next PW Together in Action Days, to be held in January around the issue of human trafficking. Download a toolkit for action at [www.pcusa.org/resource/toolkit-action-modern-slavery](http://www.pcusa.org/resource/toolkit-action-modern-slavery).