



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN in the PRESBYTERY OF UTICA



October 2013

Fall Gathering
Wednesday, October 9, 2013
Richfield Springs Church of Christ Uniting
Registration – 10:00 AM

The Presbyterian Women of the Utica Presbytery will meet Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 10:00 AM at the Church of Christ Uniting, 22 Church Street, Richfield Springs, N.Y. Registration will be at 10:00 AM. The workshop led by Jen Lenard-Benson will start at 10:15 AM.

We will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Presbyterian Women with Jen Lenard-Benson, Presbyterian Women funds development associate, leading the gathering.

Lunch will be served by the ladies of the church under the direction of Carol Simpson. The charge for lunch will be \$5, payable that day, and we will have a cake with candles for a real celebration. Make your reservations with Vivian Brucker, treasurer, 942-4251 or e-mail – vivbrucker@yahoo.com.

Our free will offering will be used to pay the postage for the 55 school kits for CWS that were assembled at the retreat. Your Coordinating Team hopes that you all will mark your calendar and join us for this happy occasion.

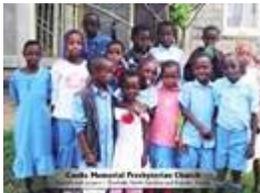
Directions: Richfield Springs is located near the intersection of Rte 20 and Rte 28. At this intersection follow Rte 20 East to the stoplight in the center of town, which is the intersection with Rte 167. Turn North on Rte 167 (Church Street), the church is one block north on the right. It is a red building with green trim and a steeple. **Take Rte 5S to Mohawk**, go south on Rte 28 to Rte 20 or Rte 5 to Herkimer, south on Rte 28 to Rte 20 and follow the above directions to the church. **If using the Thruway**, go to the Herkimer exit (exit 30) then south on Rte 28 to Rte 20 and follow the above directions to the church. **From the south**, follow Rte 28 north to Rte 20 and follow the above directions to the church.

Thank Offering (Including Health Ministries) – Reminder that fall is the time of year when the Thank Offering is collected. The Thank Offering is designated to support health ministries throughout the world and for new creative areas of mission projects selected by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee from proposals submitted. Go to www.youtube.com and click on 2013 Thank Offering English. When the video comes up, you will see other videos on the right.



Jen Lenard-Benson

2:41pm Aug 23



2013 Thank Offering English
www.youtube.com

Promotional movie of the 2013 Thank Offering



Celebrating 25 Years of Presbyterian Women

It's a celebration – and you are invited!

During this Utica PWP workshop, you will have the opportunity to learn more about PW mission and ministry throughout the years, as well as how to continue the PW legacy while working with different generations.

Don't you want to celebrate your PW successes to date, build bridges for the future, and connect with more amazing women in your life?

Join Jen Lenard-Benson, Presbyterian Women funds development associate, as she facilitates this workshop you don't want to miss.

Register today!

Jen Lenard-Benson Presbyterian Women, funds development associate

Jen Lenard-Benson has served as the funds development associate for Presbyterian Women since June 2010. She provides leadership, strategic direction and coordination for PW's fundraising efforts.

With eighteen years of experience in the nonprofit sector, Jen has a passion for mission-based fundraising and for connecting people to the mission and ministry of organizations.



JEN LENARD-BENSON PWP UTICA TOWN HALL MEETING October 9, 2013 Whitesboro Presbyterian Church 6:30PM

**What's on YOUR agenda ?
Frustrations? Dreams? Help?
Or
What does Churchwide PW look like in the 21st Cent.?**

Spiritual Life and Worship Coordinator - We also would like to inform you that our "Spiritual Life and Worship Coordinator," Rev. Susan Solomon, will be leaving us. How blessed we have been throughout the years for the many ways that she was able to fit us into her already busy schedule to lead us spiritually and to help us to grow in our own faith journeys. We will miss you Susan but wish you love, peace and happiness as you continue to reach out touching the hearts of others.

Hunger, Peacemaking & Justice, Barbara Epley-Shuck, Coordinator

As genetically modified foods become more popular in the US they have been banned in many countries of Europe and Japan. There is some solid evidence that they do not meet the nutritional needs we all have though they are usually high yielding and disease resistant. As we all want to eat the foods that will make us healthier it is good to watch for organic and foods that have not been genetically modified. Some states, including Connecticut are requiring manufacturers to tell on their labels whether the ingredients are genetically modified. Look for NON GMO project verified labels on packages to be sure.

Many of the Church World Service kits are being used in refugee camps near the Syrian conflict now.

Europe has banned pesticides linked to bee deaths, but the US hasn't acted. Information comes from Green America.

The debate on fracking continues and there is strong evidence it is not good for the environment or the people living nearby.

We are helping others when we buy from people who are paid a fair wage, such as fair trade items. Fast food workers who earn about \$7.50 are asking for a \$15 an hour wage. It wouldn't increase costs much on a food items, and would have a big difference in the workers lives as well as increase the economy with the other things the workers buy.

Together in Service, Joanne Strike, Together in Service Mission Coordinator

Welcome to a new year of fellowship with other women in PC(USA) Churches. It is important for us Presbyterian women to gather and communicate, to encourage each other in our Christian faith and to demonstrate our faith together in service.

You may be a PW group, a mission association, or a woman's fellowship. However you label yourselves, the Presbyterian Women of the Utica Presbytery would like to hear what your local group has been doing so we can encourage each other and share ways we can be in service in the name of Christ. Many groups prepare health or school kits for Church World Service to distribute to those in need. Women from the Utica and Cayuga-Syracuse Presbyteries brought many items to the Retreat at Vanderkamp to assemble CWS School Kits. How good it was to see those boxes of kits taken to the CWS office ready to be distributed. Many of us also prepared school kits in our own churches. It will be good to know how many kits we send all together – every one adds up. So let me know. Some churches have, or send women to work in, soup kitchens, some groups sew or collect items for mission houses, and some work on fund raisers for local or regional causes, or to support children around the world. Please share what YOU do, so we can encourage each other, pray for each other and for the missions we support, and give each other ideas for other ways we can serve. Also, let us know if there are projects on which we can collaborate and multiply our effectiveness.

Another activity for Church World Service you might consider is to hold an Alternative Gift Fair in which people select symbolic gifts for family members or friends with a gift to CWS. For example, you might decide to give \$25 for "Educational Toys" to honor a teacher. Church World Service will send you a packet with a poster, their Best Gift catalog, gift cards, and information on these meaningful gifts. Go to www.cwsbestgifts.org to order materials or to learn more. This would be a great after church Advent activity or a great addition to your Christmas Bazaar.

I'd like to remind you that our PW is a member of Bread for the World. This organization "is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.

God's grace in Jesus Christ moves us to help our neighbors, whether they live in the next house, the next state, or the next continent." www.bread.org

Bread for the World asks us as concerned citizens to write letters to our Congress members to encourage maintaining programs that provide a circle of protection around our less fortunate brothers and sisters in our country and around the world. Once again our government is making crucial budget decisions, so now would be a good time to write to our representatives asking them to remember "the least of these".

As we continue our outreach to local groups, Please bring some of these items to the Fall Gathering on October 9th:

- Mittens, scarves and hats for children & adults who need them
- 8 inch squares crocheted or knitted –to be made into an afghan for shut-ins
- Toiletries for Hope House and Emmaus House
- Diapers and Baby Wipes for Thea Bowman House
- Cleaning supplies, detergents, etc. in small sizes for women at Emmaus House or in regular sizes for Abraham House

Thanks!! See you on October 9th.

Horizons Report, Mary Grow, Horizons Communicator

The July/August issue is about God's Call to Community with Neighbors of Many Faiths. "Christians are called to live in community with people of many faith traditions. A multifaith landscape that is part of many cultures around the world is becoming more common in the United States. As communities change, living faithfully while respecting the faith traditions of others becomes not something observed or engaged at a special event, but a regular, daily spiritual practice. Presbyterians have a long theological and historical tradition of interfaith relationship and dialogue that informs us about who we are and how to be neighbors in God's diverse world. This issue lifts up perspectives and issues critical to living this call to community."

The September/October issue will be about Appalachia and the USA Mission Experience. Articles will be about detangling myth from reality, history of Presbyterian witness in this area, economic realities of the region and what investments in this region are proving, as well as environmental issues and information about the Cherokee Indian history.

TWO WONDERFUL ISSUES.

RECIPE TO SHARE – From the Retreat at Vanderkamp by Jan Whiting

Cheese Ball

- 1 8 oz. package of cream cheese, room temp
- 1 8oz bag shredded cheddar cheese
- ½ cup crumbled bleu cheese
- 2 tsp grated onion
- a little chopped green pepper
- 1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- salt

Add all ingredients mix well and roll ball in chopped nuts or parsley.

CHILL and serve with crackers

Ghirardelli Ultimate - Double Chocolate Cookies

1 bag (11.5 Oz) Ghirardelli 60% cocoa
Bittersweet Chocolate Chips
6 Tbls unsalted butter
3 eggs
1 cup sugar
1/3 cup flour
½ tsp baking powder
1 bag (12 oz) Ghir. Semi Sweet Chocolate Chips
1 cup (4oz) chopped walnuts

In a double boiler over hot water, melt bittersweet choc. chips and butter. In large bowl with electric mixer beat eggs and sugar until thick, stir together flour and baking powder, stir into chocolate mix. Gently mix in chocolate chips and walnuts.

Using a sheet of plastic wrap, form dough into two logs, each 2 inches in diameter and about 8 inches long, As dough will be very soft, use plastic wrap to hold dough in log shape. Wrap tightly. Refrigerate at least an hour or until firm.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Unwrap dough, cut with sharp knife into ¾ inch slices. Place slices 1 ½ inches apart on greased baking or parchment lined cookie sheet. Bake 12-14 minutes or until shiny crust forms on top but still stays soft in the middle. Cool on baking sheet. Enjoy the moment of timeless pleasure. Makes 2 dozen.

Legacy Christmas is a collection of Celtic-inspired Christmas carols important to Presbyterians throughout the generations — “treasured carols of the Kirk.” Produced by Living Waters for the World (LWW) through the generosity of an anonymous donor, *Legacy Christmas* is performed by some of Nashville’s and Ireland’s top musicians; it features acclaimed vocalist Alyth McCormack (of The Chieftains) on three of the ten tracks.



Living Waters for the World, a ministry of the Synod of Living Waters, PC(USA), has received PW financial support at critical times throughout its 20 years of ministry, most notably a Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering grant in 2007. As a way to give back, LWW is offering PW the opportunity to share the proceeds from *Legacy Christmas*. CDs will be available through PW in the Congregation (PWC) groups and by direct order. If your congregation does not have a PWC group, contact the PW marketing office (carissa.herold@pcusa.org or 888.728.7228, ext. 5322). Proceeds will be shared 50/50 between the PW Birthday Offering and LWW.

There are two ways for local PWs (and others) to participate!

I. Consignment! You can make *Legacy Christmas* available at your Christmas gift market, circle and session meetings, between worship services, presbytery gatherings — wherever you will meet anyone who enjoys beautiful carols and supporting the work of PW and Living Waters for the World! Simply make the CDs available for a suggested donation of \$15 each and return a check made payable to “Presbyterian Women” along with any unsold CDs (if you have any unsold CDs!)

You will receive a kit comprising: 10 CDs with black cardboard display, two posters, gift cards and brochures. You may order additional sets of ten CDs with your consignment. **To consign, please visit the Legacy Christmas website** (www.legacychristmas.net) **or contact Carissa Herold.**

II. Individual donation. Yes, you may obtain single copies of *Legacy Christmas* outside consignment for a minimum \$15.00 (each CD) donation. Please add \$5.00 for shipping for one to four CDs; \$7.50 for five to ten CDs; \$10.00 for 11 to 20 CDs. You also may give over and above the minimum to support the ministries of PW and LWW. **Please visit the Legacy Christmas website or contact Carissa Herold.**

Upcoming Events:

Wed, October 9 - Fall Gathering at Richfield Springs Church

Sat., November 9 - Leadership Enhancement Workshop for PW in the Synod of the Northeast, "Out of Chaos, There is Hope" at Stony Point Center

Wed, November 13 – Coordinating Team Meeting

Wed, February 12 – Winter Gathering

Tips for an Exceptional, Superb & Powerful Life:

Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day. Buy a lock if you have to.

Live with the 3 E's – Energy, Enthusiasm, and Empathy.

Try to make at least three people smile each day.

Ladies – Go on and burn those 'special' scented candles, use the 600 thread count sheets, the good china and wear that fancy lingerie now. Stop waiting for a special occasion. Everyday is special!



Joyce LeClar, Newsletter Editor
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