



Quarterly News for *Presbyterian Women in Leadership*

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Select About PW, then select Quarterly Newsletter.

April-July 2012

Presbyterian Women Churchwide

“Well, if you wait long enough, good things will happen”

You may recall that, a year ago, a group of Presbyterian Women volunteers, including Churchwide Coordinating Team members, staff and women from PW in presbyteries and synods, traveled to New Orleans to continue the rebuilding process undertaken by the Presbytery of South Louisiana and St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. (In March of this year, a PW national mission team returned to New Orleans and the Presbytery of South Louisiana for the fifth time since Katrina. See photo, below right.)

In 2011, volunteers worked on two homes in New Orleans, one of which was projected to be completed in a matter of weeks. More than a year later, that home was dedicated. Kathy

Randall, Gathering Planning Team chair and New Orleans resident, said “This has been a long road for these folks.”

Kathy wrote on March 31:

Well, if you wait long enough, good things happen!

Yesterday was a glorious day for Project Homecoming and homeowners John and Minnie Phillips in New Orleans.

You recall the long wait the New Orleans couple had to return to the home you worked on last spring. They had one horrible thing after another happen with repairs and inspections. This might be the longest repair period of a home in the five-plus years of recovery—vandalism, theft and weather all contributed to the delays.

Yesterday, their home was dedicated. The CCT/PW team working on the Phillips' home in January last year was certainly thanked in a big way for their efforts to help restore the Phillips' home. An overflow crowd met in John and Minnie's living room, kitchen and dining area to enjoy the celebration. Scripture was read and gifts were presented. But the first item was to thank national Presbyterian Women for their continued support . . . even a year-plus later. The ceremony was followed by fried chicken, red beans and rice, salad and sheer joy, all prepared by Minnie.

Hundreds of volunteers through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Project Homecoming helped in the ongoing work that was finished yesterday.



Photo courtesy of Kathy Randall

John and Minnie Phillips, above, receive a gift presented on behalf of Presbyterian Women by Kathy Randall, right, at the March 29 dedication of their restored home in New Orleans.

Kathy Randall presented a gift on behalf of the CCT, all PW volunteers and Churchwide moderator Marta Rodríguez. Kathy said, “It was a grand event filled with happiness and appreciation. Thanks so much for caring.” Visit Project Homecoming on Facebook.



Photo by Yvonne Hileman

A cross hangs in the window of John and Minnie Phillips' home in New Orleans. The Phillipses told PW volunteers who were there in January 2011 to help rehab the home that the cross was hung as a sign of faith, as a message to those who had vandalized the worksite repeatedly that the homeowners had faith in Christ, and sustained hope in the recovery of the city and its people from the damage of Hurricane Katrina.



Photo courtesy of Dahlia Vela

Marta Rodríguez and other PW volunteers in New Orleans, March 2012; see the May/June issue of Horizons for more.

CGR training opportunity in May

Training for Celebration Giving representatives will take place via webinar on **Thursday, May 10**, in two sessions; one at 2 PM EST and one at 7 PM EST. To register, call Jen Lenard-Benson at 888/728-7228, ext. 5308 or email jen.lenard-benson

@pcusa.org. Celebration Giving representatives are critical leaders who assist with interpretation and promotion of giving opportunities within PW. If you are enthusiastic about serving in this important role, please register for training. For more, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org.

Don't miss what's inside! • Special offers for *Horizons* subscribers! • A busy CCT reports on mission trips, advocacy days and more!
Horizons Bible study quilt opportunity! • Roma project details • Gathering on a shoestring • USAME 2012 • Foundation gifts • and more!

New devotional booklet (available online) lifts up plight of Europe's largest minority

Presbyterian Women has again partnered with World Mission to produce a booklet of prayer and thanksgiving for the Roma people, in observation of International Day of the Roma (April 8, 2012).

Who are the Roma? The Roma are the largest minority group in Europe. Sometimes pejoratively known as Gypsies, the Roma people frequently are victims of deep impoverishment,



A Roma settlement in Eastern Slovakia

toxic living situations (the Roma are often forced to reside in environmentally inhospitable locations), hate crimes, human trafficking, and an overall lack of access to adequate education and health care.

The devotional is the second produced by PW and World Mission to lift up the plight of the Roma people. Both the 2012 booklet and the 2011 booklet are available for download at www.presbyterianwomen.org. The direct link to the 2012 devotional is <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/pray-roma-2012>. Last year's booklet is at www.pcusa.org/resource/pray-roma.

The new devotional shines a much-needed light on the Roma experience through a ten-day cycle of prayer and thanksgiving and is suitable for year-round use by both individuals and groups. If you do not have access to PW's website, send a large (9" x 12"), self-addressed, stamped envelope, or \$1.00 for envelope and postage (cash or check made payable to "PW" with

a note and your address) to Carissa Herold; she will send one out to you—Presbyterian Women, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville KY 40202-1396.



Roma basket weaver in Gat, Carpath-Ukraine

Photos courtesy of Burkhard Paetzold

Mission Relationships

Roma baskets suit every mission, large or small!

PW's Roma Development Project grew out of the 2008 Global Exchange to Eastern Europe. During this time, thanks to the vision of Presbyterian women, two cooperatives of Roma women in two villages in southwestern Ukraine are trying to turn their traditional handicraft of basketmaking into a viable microenterprise.

Roma-made baskets have been made available for some time through the PW offices and through special consignments made available thanks to PWs at various PW and PC(USA) gatherings throughout the United States. (A big thanks to all who have advanced this ministry—Judith and Judia, Cissy and Muriel, Alison and Gail, Janet and Marilyn, Beverly and Jane, Kathy and Nancy, Liz and Betsy, Kathy and Jan, and all of the unnamed but equally appreciated women and men who have made available and/or purchased baskets along the way!)

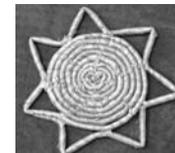
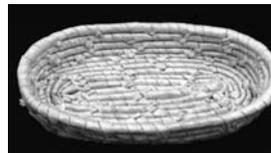
These baskets are so versatile, they are always in style!

You might plan to visit sick community members this year, bearing baked items for good cheer. Filling a Roma-made basket with goodies is truly an expression of hope and support for this promising business.

Put one on your dresser or by your door to catch earrings, keys, coins and other trinkets of daily life that might fall prey to the family cat otherwise.

Keep one on your dining room table full of edible fruit or on your living room console full of decorative fruit to enhance your decor.

Roma baskets are that versatile! And they come with a story. See the May/June 2012 issue of *Horizons* for what they mean to the women who make them.



PWR11440, shallow oval bread basket, above left, \$10

PWR11424, medium star trivet, center, \$9

PWR11425, flared side basket, above right, \$12

Roma baskets are available through PDS (800/524-2612), from the online PC(USA) Church Store, and will be available for purchase at both General Assembly and the PW Churchwide Gathering. In the meantime, to see what is available, go to www.pcusa.org/store and type in "Roma basket" in the search box in the upper-right-hand corner of your computer screen. (Note: quantities vary and each basket is handcrafted, so no two are alike.) Baskets also are listed in the new PW resource catalog (item PWR12001). A selection of baskets with photos are listed below and can be ordered through Presbyterian Distribution Service or the PCUSA Church Store.

Unto These Hills—USA Mission Experience 2013

"Unto These Hills" is the theme for the 2013 USA Mission Experience, June 18–26, 2013. The focus will be on Appalachia. Participants will learn about the realities of life in Appalachia and visit church-related and sponsored ministries that respond to the needs of the people living in Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina. Applications are online at www.presbyterianwomen.org/missionmatters.

Early bird registration for the Churchwide Gathering ends soon! Don't miss out!

It's time to register for the 2012 Churchwide Gathering, to be held July 18–22 in Orlando. Register online or send in the form from your registration booklet. **Register on or before May 15 to receive early-bird rates.**

What to anticipate

- Gift card offering—Bring a \$20 card from Target, Kmart, Walmart, Lowe's, Walgreens, CVS, Costco or Publix. Gifts will benefit Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, which offers services to migrant farmworkers and their families in three Florida communities.
- PW LIVE—an interactive area where you can participate in hands-on mission and justice activities; sit and chat with a global partner; join a book discussion, yoga class or trivia game, and more!
- Presbyterian Bookstore—Load up on PW resources including the latest promotional materials, Bible study resources, books for discussion, even breakfast!
- Kids Night Out child care!—Women who make arrangements in advance to bring children to the Gathering will pay just \$2.50 per hour to the Kids Night Out program.
- Chat and Chew book clubs—Join mealtime book discussions at the Gathering.
- Silent auction to benefit the Birthday Offering, Thank Offering and Mission Pledge!
- Spirituality center, shopping and exhibits along Hope River Wharf, early morning devotions, forums, workshops, excursions, reunions, mission posters, and plenary sessions!
- All this and more under one climate-controlled roof!

Important notes

- Early-bird registration is for those PW birds who register no later than May 15, 2012!
- Inside this newsletter mailing, you will find five copies of the next in a series of Gathering promotional postcards. These postcards exhort women: "Don't Miss Out!" Place a stamp and write a message (or distribute cards at circle or committee meetings, gatherings and church suppers; and post on bulletin boards). Share with any and all Presbyterian women (and men) who don't want to miss this opportunity to grow in community! (For additional postcards, contact Jung Ju Winner at jung.winner@pcusa.org; 888/728-7228, ext. 5389.)

A huge thank-you to The Presbyterian Foundation

We learned recently that The Presbyterian Foundation will be sponsoring the Churchwide Gathering at the \$10,000 level. See page 4 for giving opportunities through the Foundation. Visit the foundation on the web at www.presbyterianfoundation.org.



Don't miss the quilt promo at the Gathering

Calling all subscribers and nonsubscribers! Visit the Horizons booth at the Gathering to renew or subscribe and get your name in the hat for a chance to receive this one-of-a-kind textile rendition of the Gathering logo!



Continue to plan and promote with these items

- Free promotional packet (with DVD)—item CWG12032
- Free Gathering flier—item CWG12031
- Promotional poster—item CWG12030
- Personal invitation postcards—10/pack; item CWG12027
- Registration booklet—item CWG12001
- Visit Orlando! brochure—item CWG12034

Gathering tees ordering guide

Misses' cut		Chest
Small	Item CWG12119	34"
Medium	Item CWG12120	38"
Large	Item CWG12121	40"
XL	Item CWG12122	44"
Women's cut*		
Large	Item CWG12126	38"
XL	Item CWG12127	40"
2X	Item CWG12123	42"
3X	Item CWG12124	46"
4X	Item CWG12125	48"
Plus cut*		
2X	Item CWG12128	50"
3X	Item CWG12129	52"



Your purchase of the flattering Gathering tee enables women in India to earn a living wage, and helps them leave (or avoid) prostitution. (The tote bags received at registration also support this effort.)

Order all Gathering tees and promo items from Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS), toll-free 800/524-2612 or www.pcusa.org/store. Shipping and handling charges apply—10% of order total, \$5.25 minimum, \$65.00 maximum. Although infrequent, prices and availability may change without notice.

Questions?

- See the FAQ on the Gathering web pages: www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering!
- Registration?—Call Jan Hunter-Uhl, 502/905-5283.
- Voting representative questions (including registration questions)—Contact Veronica Green, 888/728-7228, ext. 5844, or veronica.green@pcusa.org.
- General information about the Gathering—Contact Patricia Longfellow, 888/728-7228, ext. 8015, or email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org.

Attending on a shoestring?

- Ask your church to sponsor a fundraiser to send a PW (you?) to the Gathering.
- Share a suite (three or four in a suite is cheaper than two in a regular room, since you can use a rollaway bed in the suite—be sure to reserve the rollaway, too. Rates for suites are the same for up to four occupants; rollaways are free to the first 100 who request them. Call early!)
- Grocery shop and use the small refrigerator in your room to keep food fresh.
- Eat breakfast at Java Coffee Shop; their breakfast sandwich tastes great and is reasonably priced (around \$5).
- Certainly, carpool there if you are close enough.

Additional Gathering information may be found at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering.

Gift opportunities through the Presbyterian Foundation help support Presbyterian Women

Reaching out to others is an intrinsic part of our Presbyterian values. As we embrace our blessings, we must also accept the responsibility of God's gifts to us. That responsibility invites us to be stewards of our faith and use all of God's gifts wisely.

Did you know there are many ways to give through the Presbyterian Foundation to meet a variety of personal financial goals and benefit Presbyterian Women (PW) at the same time? You may be surprised that even a small asset can be turned into a gift to support PW.

A **creative gift fund** is the Presbyterian Foundation's donor-advised fund. With this gift option, you have the flexibility to recommend ministries or missions to receive distributions from the fund on an ongoing basis. This allows you the opportunity to respond to changing needs or set up a recurring gift.

Permanent endowment funds can be established in your name or in memory of a loved one to benefit the mission and

ministry work of Presbyterian Women. Funds provide immediate and ongoing support, impacting future generations. Don't forget about the already established **Leadership Endowment Fund** and **Widening the Circle Fund**—both benefit leadership training and enhancement opportunities for Presbyterian women at all levels of the church.

You may find **charitable gift annuities** an appealing way to provide a gift to Presbyterian Women while receiving lifetime income.

Including Presbyterian Women as a **bequest in your will** is an excellent way to continue your stewardship. You may include a gift of a stated amount or a percentage of your estate.

These are just a few of the ways you can continue your support for the mission and ministry work of Presbyterian Women. To discuss these opportunities, please contact Jen Lenard-Benson, PW funds development associate, jen.lenard-benson@pcusa.org or 888/728-7228 ext. 5308.



Wanted: Donations for Churchwide Gathering's silent auction to benefit Presbyterian Women Offerings

A silent auction will be held at the 2012 Churchwide Gathering, with all proceeds benefiting the PW Mission Pledge, Birthday Offering or Thank Offering. Even if you're not attending, you (or your PW group) can donate items, and select which of the three giving opportunities your donation should benefit.

Circles, congregations, presbyteries and/or synods can donate new items (nothing used, please) for the auction. Items should have a minimum value of \$50. Smaller items with a combined

total value of \$50 can be grouped. Crafts and artisan items are welcome. Items should be small and light enough to fit in suitcases. If not, the donating group is responsible for shipping costs.

To arrange for your item to be included in the auction, submit the form that is available at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering by June 15, 2012.

The auction will open at 10 AM on July 18 and close on July 20 at 7 PM. Items may be picked up on July 21 between 1:30 PM and 4 PM. Bid sheets will be available for each item. A minimum bid

amount will be set, and bidders must bid this amount to start the bidding. Bidding continues in minimum increments as set for each item (e.g., \$5). The person with the highest bid at the end of the auction will receive the item. Winning bidders are responsible for getting the item to its final destination, whether carrying or shipping.

Learn more about the silent auction at www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering or contact Jen Lenard-Benson, jen.lenard-benson@pcusa.org or 888/728-7228, ext. 5308.

Antiracism

Antiracism Committee introducing two resolutions to the 2012 Churchwide Business Meeting of PW

Some say that the young Martin Luther King Jr., who had just relocated to Montgomery, Alabama, to become the pastor of a local Baptist church, would not have stood up to lead the bus boycott had Rosa Parks not insisted on staying seated on December 1, 1955.

For the second year in a row, the CCT's Antiracism Committee met at the Highlander Research and Education Center where Rosa Parks attended a workshop on race relations only months before her arrest, which sparked the Montgomery bus boycott. This time, several members of ARC even participated in the Racial Ethnic Dialog meeting that took place immediately before the ARC meeting. Additionally, members of both groups participated in a half-day dialog facilitation training led by Frances Frazier, senior consultant of

Everyday Democracy, who has provided facilitator leadership for the Dialog during this triennium.

While celebrating the legacies of Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and hundreds of others, many of whom are Presbyterians who have tirelessly fought for racial justice, both groups realize that we have to continue the fight because the Promised Land is yet to come.

Therefore, the Antiracism Committee has introduced two resolutions to the 2012 Business Meeting: 1. To reaffirm PW's commitment to building an inclusive and caring community of women; and 2. To commend the 2003 Structural Review Task Group's report to PW groups. The 2003 report had recommended that "this report be commended to every PW to read,

study and implement the recommendation in her community, involving an outward manifestation as well as an expression of each woman's heart." ARC calls upon every Presbyterian woman to take this recommendation to heart and make it an important part of her individual faith journey as well as PW's collective faith journey. ARC also encourages you to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered at the 2012 PW Gathering concerning racial justice. Three workshops offered in this area are: White Privilege: What Is It and How Can Presbyterian Women Respond? (No. 22), All Together Now in Christ: PC(USA) Edition (No. 33), and Building and Nurturing Diversity in PW Leadership (No. 36). Come and visit the ARC booth in the exhibit area also!

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

Ann Broom	Mary E. Gonyea	Lake Charles, LA	Helen P. Palmour	Janet Kay Skinner
Phyllis Brunsteter	Frankie Grimes	Christine Lee	J.B. Parker	Julie Stephenson
Sharon Cely	Patricia E. Haguewood	Diana Lim	Maria O. Pezeshki	Martha B. Tissington
Thylis Chambless	Ruth L. Hass	Joann Martin	Francina Presley	Marcella Trice
Virginia Clapp	Kathryn M. Hazlett	Katherine Meyer	Nancy Richter	Paul W. Weaver
Barbara Clay	Maggie Horak	Florence and Elli	Virginia Ritchie	Barbara Will
Delores Wilson Cole	Sarah Hyde	Morrison	Marta T. Rodríguez	Donna Young
Sally G. Farris	Linda Latour,	Jane Moses	Phyllis Schlobohm	
Florence Foster	St. Andrew PW,	Helen Knox Murphy	Ruth Shook	

donations processed from January 1, 2012 through February 29, 2012, 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 *Horizons*/Presbyterian Women, PO Box 421, Congers, NY 10920-0421.)

Creative Ministries Offerings

Twenty-seven projects selected to receive grants from the 2011 Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women

By Karene Jones, CCT representative, Synod of the Sun

"Clothe yourself with compassion" (Colossians 3:12) is the theme chosen by the Creative Ministries Offering Committee for the 2012 Thank Offering. Presbyterian Women will be awarding nearly \$700,000 to 27 applicants that include 13 national, each from a different state, plus 14 international projects representing 11 countries. The funds were received from the 2011 offering.

Since 1888 Presbyterian women have thankfully given to fund mission programs throughout the world through the Thank Offering. This year the Thank Offering will support programs to provide clean water, just treatment of women, education, safe housing, help prisoners and much more.

The Creative Ministries Committee is comprised of seven women from the Churchwide Coordinating Team and two women from General Assembly Mission Council. The committee met in March to choose the 27 recipients from 70 applications. It was through the moving of the Holy Spirit that the committee was able to make the difficult choices. Specific criteria are used in considering applicants: whether the applicant has received a previous grant, what percentage of the funding will go toward salaries, whether they have sent Presbyterian references, whether volunteers are being used in the projects and whether funding is being sought from other sources.

Even though our challenge of \$900,000 was not met for the Thank Offering this past year, our challenge goal remains the same. We pray that the hearts and minds of women will be opened to spreading the word about the Thank Offering and to giving to families and children in need as we have all been blessed.

See the July/August issue of *Horizons* magazine for a complete list of the recipients plus an order form for 2012 promotional materials. Promotional packets will be mailed on or about August 1. If you or your leaders do not receive a copy by the end of August, please contact Patricia Longfellow at 888/728-7228 ext. 8015.

Please also check the website at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank, or contact Cindy Goodman at

888/728.7228, ext. 5387, or cindy.goodman@pcusa.org, for more information.

Mission Pledge to mail in July, Thank Offering in August

Be on the lookout for the 2013 Mission Pledge materials, as well. They will be mailed in July, ahead of the Thank Offering promotional materials, which will be mailed in August. If you or your leaders do not receive a copy by the end of July, please contact Patricia Longfellow at 888/728-7228 ext. 8015.

Presbyterian Women in the Synods

Presbyterian women in Puerto Rico march for peace

By Ana Camila Vazquez

The Justice and Peace Committee of PWS of Boriquen, conscious of recent violence in Puerto Rico, organized a march, held on March 9, 2012, to promote peace in the city of Mayaguez, with the participation of the PWP of the Southwest and Northwest.

We brought a message of peace to the community using flyers and bookmarks. The students of Eugenio Maria de Hostos Public School, Pablo Casassus's Presbyterian College and Head Start of Mayaguez joined us.

Students from Mayaguez's music school brought joy to the event with their participation. Also, the organization of Mothers against Drunk Drivers gave light to the serious repercussions of driving under the influence of alcohol.

The mayor of Mayaguez showed his support by helping us with the logistics of the march. The closing was held at "La Plaza Colón" where a worship service was held and music was played.



Sisters Stand and Walk Together, Takin' It to the Congregations key to PW leadership enhancement

In the quarterly newsletter of October 2010–January 2011, the Leadership Enhancement Committee (LEC) featured two of its key projects: Sisters Stand and Walk Together and Takin' It to the Congregations. Both projects continue as integral components of leadership enhancement within Presbyterian Women.

The Takin' It to the Congregations leadership training gave synod participants tools to help congregations (PWCs) assess their current situations, discover why programs may no longer be effective, identify changes that are needed, set new directions and work in new ways to engage more women.

Participants in the Takin' It to the Congregations training in September 2010 are invited to a reunion following the Thursday evening plenary session on July 19, 2012, at the Churchwide Gathering. We have reserved a room where we can meet to discuss the status of the training in your synod. We reviewed your feedback from the initial training as well as subsequent updates and we are looking forward to talking with you. Others interested in leadership are invited to attend as well. Come and tell us your stories, your successes and frustrations. The information



SSWT graduation July 2007, Northeast

you share with members of LEC during this session will help set the direction of our training efforts during the next three years.

The Sisters Stand and Walk Together project that is designed to develop leadership potential in racial ethnic and immigrant women has been carried out in four synods so far since it was initiated by the PW in the Synod of Northeast in 2004.

This project will span four triennia if PW, at its 2012 Business Meeting, approves the recommendation of LEC to set expanding the initiative as a leadership development priority for the 2012–2015 triennium. The recommendation follows LEC's recent review of the three grant recipients' progress in implementing the program within their synods of Mid-

Atlantic, South Atlantic and Pacific. All three synods successfully implemented the project. A forum on this wonderful project is scheduled at 11 AM on Thursday, July 19, 2012 at the Churchwide Gathering. Please come and learn about the Synod of the Northeast's Sisters Stand and Walk Together program as told by Ann Reynolds, former moderator of PW in the Synod of the Northeast. Also, visit the LEC booth in the exhibit area of the 2012 PW Gathering for more information about this exciting project!

Mission Relationships

PW continues conversations with churches in Sudan

By Mary Cook Jorgenson

In March of this year, I participated as a representative of Presbyterian Women on a PC(USA)–led trip to South Sudan. The purpose of this trip was to continue conversations with our brothers and sisters in the Sudanese Presbyterian Evangelical Church (SPEC) headquartered in Khartoum, Sudan, and with the Presbyterian Church of Sudan (PCOS) headquartered in Malakal, South Sudan.

As they struggle daily with the aftermath of a continuing civil war, interethnic violence, and food and water insecurity, it is important that we hear their stories of faith and hope and stand with them as a community of believers.

We also had the opportunity to speak with the women from Pibor and Akobo who were involved in the 2010 workshop conducted by RECONCILE, an ecumenical peace building organization initiated by the New Sudan Council of Churches (and a 2009 Thank Offering recipient). The workshop was financed in part through the generosity of Presbyterian Women. It is disheartening to know that just a few months after the workshop that offered so much promise for peacemaking among the Nuer and Murle tribes, violence is once again a too-common occurrence. But the women from both communities voiced a strong desire to continue the work of reconciliation and hoped to be able to continue their work to build a peace together.

This was the most difficult trip that I have taken—physically, emotionally and spiritually. I hope I'll have the opportunity to return.

Read more in an upcoming issue of *Horizons* magazine.

Dispatches art quilt give-away!

Are you inspired by Laura James' richly colored depictions of God's community in the *Horizons* Bible study on the General Epistles? If so, complete and return this form* for the opportunity to receive a one-of-a-kind, quilted wall hanging, based on her illustration for Lesson 3 from *Dispatches to God's Household* by Nancy Benson-Nichol. The approximate size of the wall hanging is 13" x 19". The recipient will be notified December 1, 2012.

Please print or attach a mailing label.

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Mail to PW Marketing Associate
Presbyterian Women, Inc.
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, KY 40202-1396

*or send an email to carissa.herold@pcusa.org.
Type "Laura James art" in the subject line.

And make copies of this entry form available at events.



Presbyterian Women participates in 56th UN Commission on the Status of Women

The 2012 CSW theme was "The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges."

Every year, thousands of members of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)—both faith-based and not—gather during the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW). Groups exert tremendous amounts of energy to influence Commission outcome documents, and to enforce the resolutions and conventions on which UN member states have agreed. Members of these groups work to impact political processes, tell their stories and share their lives.

Presbyterian Women and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) participate in the UN CSW through the office of Presbyterian Ministry at the UN (PMUN) (www.pcusa.org/un).

The CCT's Justice and Peace Committee and PW's churchwide moderator keep CSW before PW at the national level and work to include women throughout the organization. Meagan Manas, PW justice and peace program specialist, staffs the committee and supports this national effort.

Ecumenical Women

PW and the PC(USA) are part of a coalition called Ecumenical Women at the United Nations. Ecumenical Women is an international coalition of church denominations and ecumenical organizations that have status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Grounded in faith and a commitment to global justice, Ecumenical Women trains and empowers an expanding network to advocate for gender equality at the United Nations.

Ecumenical Women not only provides a network of collaborators who amplify all of our voices, it also provides critical theological reflection on how faith and justice interact, and why

Justice and Peace

PW attends Ecumenical Advocacy Days in Washington, D.C., March 23–26, 2012

By *Muriel Stephens, CCT representative, Synod of Mid-America*

Washington, D.C., was a glorious sight this spring. Not only was the town in bloom but Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) was there. There were more than 750 people, from every state and Puerto Rico, representing 50 denominations, and including a large group of Presbyterians.

The focus of the conference was to advocate for a more faithful budget. A faithful budget asks us to financially prioritize "loving our neighbors as ourselves" as we look for solutions to budget crises. "Budget crisis" means different things to different people. For example, the United States spends over \$100 billion on wars each year,¹ and if spending and tax rates continue at current levels, the cost of these wars plus the effects of tax cuts will account for nearly half our national debt by 2019.²

The Faithful Budget Campaign urges lower military spending and encourages shared responsibility of all Americans through more equitable tax rates. Our focus at EAD Lobby Day was to tell our representatives not to cut the social benefits of the poor and to find more equitable ways of balancing the budget.

It was emphasized at the conference that changes necessary to bring about a more faithful budget, and to address environmental, health, hunger, clean water, clean air, renewable energy, voter registration, prison reform and other issues must have grassroots support.

After returning home, I thought about what I could do to make a difference. I started with voter registration in my county. I went to the county courthouse, learned how to register people and took 100 registration cards. At a local food pantry, I registered five people in a few hours. I also decided to ask



CCT nominee Carolyn Sprinkle speaks to the Ecumenical Women's coalition at UN CSW.

we advocate at the UN as people of faith. Through Ecumenical Women, arrangements are made for worship services that occur every morning during the two weeks of CSW.

At these worship services, daily debriefings and group dinners, women of faith experience traditions from around the world, get to know one another and strategize about how best to advocate. For more information, visit www.ecumenicalwomen.org.

PW's future with UN CSW

In July, voting representatives to the Churchwide Business Meeting of Presbyterian Women will consider a resolution to recommend that Presbyterian Women apply to the UN for association status and consultative status, which combined would allow PW to gain increased access to official CSW meetings as a registered nongovernmental organization, and effectively double the PC(USA)'s presence at CSW. Updates will be reported as information becomes available.

More in *Horizons* magazine and *Justice & Peace Links*

For a full report, as well as participant reflections on the 56th CSW, read the 2012:1 issue of *Justice & Peace Links* at www.presbyterianwomen.org (click on the justice and peace link at the left-hand side of the page). Also see "Fearful Realities, Hopeful Advocates" on page 16 in the May/June 2012 issue of *Horizons* magazine.

For more information, contact Meagan Manas, Presbyterian Women, meagan.manas@pcusa.org, 718/839-3782.

people to sign a petition to add a proposal for clean, renewable energy to the ballot in Missouri, which is 48th of the states on clean energy. I am drafting a letter to my congresspeople for a more "faithful budget." I also called eight state congressmen to stop the CAFOs (contained animal feeding operations) from polluting my state.

What can you do to make a difference? Many, many things. Write or call your congressional representatives, for starters. Tell them not to balance the budget on the backs of the poor, but to keep all of the social programs for the poor in place. Tell them you want a more equitable tax rate and the wealthy should pay their share. Tell them the rate of military spending is outrageous. Get involved.

Learn more about EAD at advocacydays.org. Download the talking-points sheet, read about the Faithful Budget Campaign and find out how to contact your representatives. Share with them why faithful budget priorities are important to you.

Learn more at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: www.cbpp.org; also see www.nationalpriorities.org and www.greenscissors.com.

Finally, sign up to receive Justice and Peace emails—<http://gamc.pcusa.org/subscriptions/lists/justice-and-peace-links>.

Notes

1. Amy Belasco, Congressional Research Service, "The Cost of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Other Global War on Terror Operations Since 9/11," March 26, 2011, summary.
2. Ellen Nissenbaum, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, in her plenary presentation, "Economy, Livelihood and our National Priorities," March 2012.

New PW resource catalog!

The new PW resource catalog is available from PDS. Just call toll-free 800/524-2612 and ask for item PWR12001. This new catalog has been rearranged just a bit from previous catalogs to better squeeze in more photos and products without expanding the overall page count. Make copies available at gatherings and circle meetings!

PW votives, both large and small

Back by popular demand, the PW logo battery-operated votive is available again—this time with a flickering “flame”! PWR12410, \$5.00. And thanks to lots of requests, a larger PW logo battery-operated candle is available—this one is taller, and yes, comes with a flickering flame. PWR12444, \$12.00. Note that the larger candle will require three AAA batteries. Order from PDS, 800/524-2612.

Coming very soon

Updated “Mission Matters” and “PW Does Mission One Purchase at a Time” fliers (items PWR12436 and PWR12437) focusing on PW’s mission development projects (including the Roma Development Project and two new projects that originated with the Global Exchange to India) will be available this summer; order form for Roma baskets included.

Celebrate the year with the 2012 PW participation pin

Want a meaningful and timely gift for each member of your circle? The PW participation pin—sold singly and in packs of five—feature the PW logo with the year (2012) in blue, gold and white. The pin measures ¾" in diameter.

PWR11406—PW participation pin—\$4 each
PWR11408—PW participation pin, pack of 5—\$15 (save!)

How to order baskets and pins

As always, order through Presbyterian Distribution Service, toll-free 800/524-2612, or from the PC(USA)’s online Church Store, www.pcusa.org/store. Shipping and handling charges apply—10% of order total, \$5.25 minimum, \$65.00 maximum. Although infrequent, prices and availability may change without notice.

Wanted: Field testers for 2014–2015 Horizons Bible study!

- Does your church school class or PW group enjoy time spent in God’s word?
- Are you already getting excited about the 2014–2015 *Horizons* Bible study on 2 Corinthians?
- Are you interested in providing feedback to author Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, as she creates the study?

Now is your chance! We are looking for field testers. As field testers, your PW group will read the first draft of the study, then record your thoughts, reactions and suggestions on evaluation forms. PW staff and the Bible study author rely on those evaluations to make the study as useful to PW as possible. Field testing will take place between August and December 2012, so apply today! Applications are available online, <http://horizons.pcusa.org/bibleupcome.htm>, or contact Betsy Ensign-George at 888/728-7228, ext. 5366, betsy.ensign-george@pcusa.org.

An oldie but a goodie

The perennially popular *Good News Women* Bible study is being made available as a free download. Visit the Bible study section at www.pcusa.org/horizons. While there, look for a full range of 2013–2014 Bible study materials, too!



Thanks for stopping by this cozy corner of the quarterly newsletter! How do we know you dropped by? Because you responded! In our last newsletter, we asked reps to collect names and addresses of anyone

who requested a sample issue of the magazine and to forward these names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses (last two optional) to Carissa Herold. She would see that sample issues were sent out asap! Thanks to a special rep in the southern California area, several future *Horizons* readers have been identified and samples are being mailed. Thank you.

If you would like to do the same, send requests to Carissa Herold, Presbyterian Women, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville KY 40202-1396; email carissa.herold@pcusa.org. Or you may distribute the lovely free-sample postcards that are enclosed and that have a message from moderator Marta Rodríguez. These *Horizons* sample-issue mailer cards are available from PDS, so share widely as supplies last! To order additional cards, call PDS (800/524-2612) and request item HZN12430.

Another treasure, this one in each Bible study! \$19.95 special offer!

Enclosed in this quarterly newsletter, you will find five two-part postcards: one for subscriptions, the other for sample issues. Use these cards, if you like, to encourage subscriptions and make available samples (also known as trial issues). These cards (special offer and trial issue) are also bound into the new *Horizons* Bible study, *Dispatches to God’s Household*, so you may be experiencing a bit of déjà vu! No worries! You have seen these before! Use them to your heart’s content! And do know that you can just send a list of sample issue requests to Carissa Herold (contact information above). You also can simply share the cards or share information on where the cards can be found (*Dispatches* Bible study and from the PW marketing office—carissa.herold@pcusa.org).

Orlando bound!

Are you a *Horizons* rep? (Current, former, no matter! One is never *not* a *Horizons* rep, after all!) Then, of course, you will be attending the Churchwide Gathering! :-)) Please stop by the *Horizons* space at the Gathering so we can thank you in person for what you do!

*There is still time to make plans! Early bird rate expires soon!

Workshops Available to PW Groups

Did you know PW staff are available to present workshops at synod, presbytery and other gatherings? This can be done in person or, for smaller groups, via webinar.

New workshop topics include:

- Building Bridges, Connecting Generations: An Intergenerational Dialogue
- Global Exchange: Perspectives from India
- Prevention of Human Trafficking
- Money, Mission and Ministry

This is a short list of the many topics that are available to your groups. If you don’t see something of interest, just ask! We’d love to talk with you about other topics you have in mind to fit your needs. Contact Ann Ferguson, PW program coordinator, at ann.ferguson@pcusa.org or 888/728-7228, ext. 5365.