



CCT Meeting Summary

One body, one spirit

March 2017



Churchwide Coordinating Team saves tens of thousands of dollars, meets by videoconference

By Susan Jackson Dowd

The Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women met March 2, 2017. For the first time in PW history, the CCT conducted the biannual board meeting by conference call using Zoom technology. This videoconferencing tool provided a face-to-face forum for the board, while eliminating travel time and cost. The estimated savings to the national budget is \$30,000.

When the CCT voted last fall to conduct the meeting telephonically, there was a healthy amount of skepticism, and the vote margin was slim. After the meeting, board member evaluations were positive.

Staff were tasked with finding a platform that would work best for the call. Stephanie Morris, PW designer and multimedia associate, researched possibilities. After the moderatorial team decided on the recommended Zoom platform, Stephanie provided training for CCT members. The moderatorial team auditioned Zoom during a monthly call. Committee meetings were conducted via Zoom prior to the full board meeting. Reports and meeting information were posted to the CCT's shared Google site for review before the meeting.

Though two two-hour calls were scheduled for the meeting, the CCT completed business during the first call. Jane DeFord, Synod of the Northeast representative, offered an opening devotion. Moderator Carol Winkler closed the meeting with a litany of thanksgiving for synod representatives who are completing their service on the CCT: Susan Barlow, Sarah Ford, Charlotte Hasselbarth, Cecilia Moran, Jane McGookey, Kay Olson.

The next CCT meeting will be at the Hampton Inn in Louisville, Kentucky, August 30–September 3, 2017.

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Meeting highlights

Administration Committee

- The CCT received a letter from Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries, Presbyterian Mission Agency, that related a \$5,000 grant for the 2018 Churchwide Gathering for the empowerment of women and a \$4,000 grant to the Mission Pledge.

Antiracism Committee

- ARC will conduct antiracism training at the September 2017 board meeting. Electronic take home materials will be provided.
- Suggested readings have been provided for the CCT and for the Churchwide Gathering bookstore: *Waking up White* by Debbie Irving; *What Does It Mean To Be White* by Dr. Robin DiAngelo; *Same Kind of Different as Me* by Ron Hall; *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly; *Bright Light Dark Night* by Stephen Edmond; and *Into White* by Randy Pink.
- The CCT will send a letter to organizers of the national women's march on Washington to request the movement be inclusive of all women.

Communications and Funds Development Committee

- The price of the Bible study has increased from \$8 to \$10 per copy, along with the Spanish and ecumenical versions. The large print has increased from \$12 to \$15. The increase takes effect with the 2017–2018 study. This does not affect the price of the *Horizons* magazine subscription, so subscribing is the most economical way to get the study!
- The 2017–2018 Bible study, *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews* by Melissa Bane Sevier is now available. Supplemental resources will be available late spring/early summer.
- *Hebrews for Everyone* by N.T. Wright is a Mission Pledge giving incentive. Give \$50 or more to the Mission Pledge and receive your copy.
- Upcoming Bible studies are 2018–2019, *God's Promises* (working title) by Amy Poling Sutherland (field testing results are with the author); 2019–2020 *Ten Commandments* (working title) by Eugenia Gamble (author is writing the first draft).
- The Bible Study Committee met after the CCT on March 21 and March 28 via Zoom. The committee selected the proposal by Lynn Miller on lament for the 2020–2021 Bible study.
- The website launch is planned for April.
- #GivingTuesday, #GratefulMonday and year-end giving were moderately successful, raising an additional \$2,500 for the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund. The committee will focus on increasing individual giving to the Mission Pledge.
- PW, in partnership with Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries, will host a meet and greet this summer at Big Tent in St Louis.
- The *Horizons* Editorial Committee met March 28 via Zoom.



Photos by Michael Martin (except Cecilia's)

The Churchwide Coordinating Team celebrated the service of six synod representatives whose terms end this summer. They are **Susan Barlow**, Synod of Lincoln Trails; **Sarah Ford**, Synod of Living Waters; **Charlotte Hasselbarth**, Synod of the Northeast; **Jane McGooney**, Synod of the Covenant; **Cecilia Moran**, Synod of the Pacific; and **Kay Olson**, Synod of Lakes and Prairies. These women have served faithfully and contributed their many talents to the leadership of Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA).

- The committee is developing a celebration and giving opportunity with PW Founders' Day that will coincide with the 1988 national PW business meeting date.

Finance Committee

- A current budget report and statement of financial position, as well as Mission Pledge, Birthday and Thank Offerings, Together in Service and Honorary Life Membership revenue comparisons of 2014, 2015, and 2016 were presented to the board.

Inclusive Community Committee

- The committee conducted three conference calls regarding the September 2016 Young Women Representatives' Report, twice with the committee only (November 3 and 29, 2016) and once with the young women's representatives in attendance (January 24, 2017). Action items include committee reassignment to ensure representation, job description review, a mentoring plan, idea proposals for recruiting and participation.
- Synod representatives are educating coordinating teams on the new *PW Manual: A Guide for PW Groups* and provided feedback on their experiences.
- A Synod Moderator Network has been established. The first call was February 28. The moderators decided to meet every two months by phone, with a face-to-face meeting at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. The next call is April 25 via Zoom.

Stay informed; help others stay informed!

Visit PW's main web page (www.presbyterianwomen.org) for essential information regarding PW and its work, as well as links to *Horizons* magazine, PW's quarterly newsletter, blogs, giving on line, and more! Or use these handy links:

Presbyterian Women on line

PW website—

www.presbyterianwomen.org

YouTube—www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen

Facebook—www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa/ (Don't have an account? Just provide a name and email address, then "like" PW's page.)

Twitter—www.twitter.com/pwpcusa

Flickr—www.flickr.com/photos/presbyterianwomen

Pinterest—www.pinterest.com/pwpcusa/

Blogs—www.pwpcusa.typepad.com (click on "Profile" to see all PW blogs)

Church Store—www.pcusa.org/store

CCT site—<https://sites.google.com/site/>

Is everyone in your circle on our email list? Don't let them miss out!

In this age of frugality, more and more communications happen by email and the internet. If your members don't have email or the internet, do they have friends who do? Ask those friends to send us their email addresses and share news with those who aren't connected electronically! Make sure everyone is on our email distribution list—email information to Patricia Longfellow (patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org). Don't let anyone miss out on important news!

Justice and Peace Committee

- A bookmark that summarizes justice and peace work will be updated and reissued.
- Members of the committee participated in the 2018 UN Commission on the Status of Women. For a report on the commission and the Agreed Conclusions, visit <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw61-2017>.
- Encourage constituents to attend Ecumenical Advocacy Days April 21–24 in Washington, DC. This year's theme is Confronting Chaos, Forging Community. Financial assistance is available through PW's Leadership Development Program. Information on EAD can be found at <https://advocacydays.org>.
- J&P plans to expand the Courageous Conversations program, suggesting topics for certain months with accompanying suggestions for action and resources.
- The CCT continues to support the PC(USA) Educate a Child initiative. Together in Action Days in May will again be around the issue of children's literacy, and encouraging the inclusion of youth in the scope of the program. This will be held during Children's Book Week, May 1–7, 2017. Information is available from the justice and peace web page, www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice. The theme of the November/December 2016 issue of *Horizons* is Educate a Child.

Mission Relationships Committee

- The CCT approved the Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition and Puente Community Resource Center, Pescadero, California, as USAME 2016 projects selected for PW extra giving opportunities.
- Fourteen representatives from 12 synods will participate in the Global Exchange to Indonesia, September 12–29, 2017. The scripture for the exchange is Romans 1:12: "so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine."
- USAME 2019 will be hosted by Geneva and Cuyuga Syracuse Presbyterian

Women in the Synod of the Northeast. The moderatorial team will appoint a chair and national planning team.

- The Mother's Day Card program is being discontinued, so PW has been asked to stop promoting the Mother's Day cards. We can still encourage PW to send gifts to Healthy Women Healthy Families through the ECO E052136.
- The Creative Ministries Offering Committee (CMOC) met February 23–25 to select 2017 Thank Offering recipients. Fifteen grant recipients were selected—ten in the U.S. and five international recipients. The total amount awarded is \$382,500.00. See the July/August issue of *Horizons* for a full report.

Coming . . .

Bible Study

2017–2018

Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews

2018–2019

*God's Promises**
Amy Poling Sutherlun

2019–2020

*Ten Commandments**
Eugenia Gamble

2020–2021

*Reclaiming Lament** • Lynn Miller

*working title

Magazine

May/June 2017 • Being Presbyterian

July/Aug 2017 • Literature/Theology

Sept/Oct 2017 • Critical Thinking and Faith

Nov/Dec 2017 • Migrants/Refugees

Jan/Feb 2018 • Global Exchange

Mar/Apr 2018 • 30 Years of PW!

May/June 2018 • Faith and Creativity

July/Aug 2018 • Compassion and Empathy

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