

The Voice

of Presbyterian Women
in the Presbytery of East Iowa
Spring-Summer - 2016



MODERATOR MUSINGS

We welcome in 2016. It is hard to believe that two months are already gone and we are entering March. We give thanks to God for the blessing of spring and warmer weather which is right around the corner. Spring also brings the blessings we receive by attending the Spring Workshop held in Washington on April 21st. Please note that there will be only one day this year and it is on a Thursday. We will assess how this goes but next year we are planning on having it on a Saturday. Please plan on attending and bringing many women with you so they too can receive God's blessing of fellowship with women of other churches in our Presbytery.

We will also receive the Birthday Offering at that time. Begun in 1922, the Birthday Offering celebrates Presbyterian Women's history of mission giving. Presbyterian Women's commitment to improving the lives of others has not changed. For 2016 four recipients have been chosen. Heartland 180 in Overland Park, Kansas; Direct Action and Research Training Center in Miami, Florida; Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley in Oakland, California; and Building Minds in South Sudan in Pittsford, New York. For more detailed information see the Birthday Offering article in the Jan./Feb. 2016 Horizon Magazine. The actual grant amounts will depend on gifts received in 2016. We ask that you give as you have been blessed, generously and as led by the Holy Spirit. Our goal is \$500,000. You can bring your Birthday Offering to the Spring Workshop in Washington on April 21st, or mail it to our PWP Treasurer, Karen Bartel, 1812 W 8th St., Davenport, Ia. 52802.

Reminder: The Synod Gathering for Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies will be held in Sioux Falls, SD at the Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center from June 15-18th. The theme is "Lord Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace." Please mark your calendars now and plan on attending and bringing lots of women. Additional information and registration forms are available at The Synod of Lakes and Prairies website, <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/>. It is suggested that you get your hotel reservations in soon. I hope to see many of you there!

Sharon Getty

PWP 2015- 2016 Mission Project

Living Waters for the World

Living Waters for the World (LWW), a mission resource of the Synod of Living Waters of the Presbyterian Church (USA), trains and equips mission teams to share the gift of clean, sustainable water with communities in need. LWW water treatment systems and related educational programs fill a critical niche in the world water crisis.

The need for clean water is overwhelming, according to the World Health Organization and other sources, over three million people die each year from water-related illnesses, most of them children. Living Waters for the World was conceived in the early 90's by Wil Howie, a minister who believed that the Synod of Living Waters, of which he is a member, could literally bring life-saving, "living" water to people throughout the world. Since its inception, LWW has partnered with mission teams to empower local community leaders to install and operate over 750 clean-water systems in major developing areas of the world and in 2005, it expanded its mission to address water quality issues in the Appalachian Region of the United States. On average, one new clean-water system is installed somewhere in the world each week.

Developing strong partnerships between trained mission teams and community leaders to install and operate clean water systems and working via those partnerships to lead health, hygiene and spiritual education are the key reasons this mission has succeeded. Empowerment of local communities and their leaders through partnership has created a sustainable global endeavor. Initiating partners commit to a minimum of three years of engagement with their operating partners, and complete four trips to the water system site during that time. The main trip, the installation/education implementation trip, typically lasts seven days and involves five to eight individuals.

Living Waters for the World allows the churches and organizations to be directly involved in people's lives in a tangible way; children are being saved from certain illness and deadly complications that come from dirty water. Living Waters for the World and its partners are sharing the water of life and sowing God's word to those who thirst.

(The previous information was gathered from the Living Waters of the World website, for addition information see <http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org>)

Baby gowns, caps no longer needed by IMA

We have learned that baby gowns and baby caps are no longer needed for Safe Motherhood Kits. Interchurch Medical Assistance (IMA) (partners with Church World Service and the PC(USA) on Gifts of the Heart kits), has identified a vendor to supply items that used to be donated. Questions? Call Kathy Reeves, 844.797.2872, ext. 5402.

Mission Yearbook of Prayer

The 120-year old Presbyterian Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study will become an online-only free digital resource starting in 2016. To learn more, visit www.pcusa.org/news/2015/8/6/mission-yearbook-transitions-new-digital-only-form.

Learn about Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women (PW) is the national women's organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). With more than 300,000 members and 25 years as an organization, PW is organized at all levels of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Learn more about PW and find resources at the PW website <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/pw/>. To read the first quarter newsletter of PW go to the following web address and download the newsletter- <http://www.pcusa.org/resource/pw-quarterly-newsletter-first-quarter-2016/>. To learn more about women in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies go to <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/PresbyterianWomenintheSynod>

PWP East Iowa Spring Workshop

April 21, 2016

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

*First United Presbyterian Church
209 E. Main St., Washington, Iowa 52353
Phone 319-653-6588*

The Power of Presbyterian Women

Join with other women from the Presbytery for a day of learning, fellowship and inspiration as we celebrate the power of Presbyterian women working together.

Visit the Fair Trade Booth, exchange ideas and information, learn about the upcoming Horizon's Bible study.

9:00 a.m. Registration and Coffee, Meeting begins at 9:30 a.m.

Please send meal registration to:

Kay Hall

619 East Tyler St.

Washington, Iowa 52353

319-653-7536

**Reservations due by April 15th Make checks payable to: Washington Presbyterian Women
Little Creations to benefit: H.A.C.A.P.**

LUNCH RESERVATION

Please return the bottom portion of this page to Kay Hall at the address above.

PW/Church Name: _____

Church/City _____

Names of those attending

Number of lunches needed _____ X \$5.00= Total Enclosed \$ _____

We will need child care for _____ children below age 5;

_____ children age 5-8;

_____ children over age 8

At 10 am the child care provider will be dismissed if no children are in attendance

I / We have the following nutritional needs:

LORD MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE

SYNOD GATHERING FOR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE SYNOD OF THE LAKES & PRAIRIES

June 15-18, 2016

Who should attend?

Women of all ages who would like to join in Christian Fellowship
and are looking for a spiritually enriching experience.

Program Highlights will include:

Morning and Evening Worship, Bible study
Selection of workshops. Meet the Speaker sessions.
Great Room which includes Bookstore,
Ten Thousand Villages and hands on mission project.

Choose from a variety of workshops including a new look at Presbyterian Women of Today and what they are doing. Listen to Keynote speaker Susan Jackson Dowd, enjoy Worship with the Rev. Dr. Carolyn Visser, join Kristi Holler in music, sound and dance, and let Rev. Stephanie Anthony challenge you in the new bible study, "Who is Jesus."

OFFERING RECIPIENTS: ECPAT-USA will receive a portion of the offering to assist them with policy and legislative advocacy, collaboration with the travel industry and protection and empowerment of youth to ensure children grow up free. Another recipient will be chosen and we want it to be some group or organization from the Synod of Lakes & Prairies. If you have any suggestions, please let the committee know.

HANDS-ON PROJECTS- Please bring fat quarters of 100% cotton to be cut into blocks for quilts, lap quilts, etc. No sewing on site, but cutting into blocks would be hands-on. Completed items can be donated to Domestic Violence shelters, the VA Hospital, or nursing homes in the area. Anyone wishing to complete a project with your group at home could take the blocks and then donate the finished item to one of your local projects.

Please bring \$10 gift cards from Target or Hy-Vee which will be given to the Center of Hope in Sioux Falls, SD.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Gathering begins with registration on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 2:00 PM at the Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center, 3200 W. Maple St. (Located off I-29, Exit 81) Sioux Falls, SD and concludes after the plenary on Saturday, June 18, 2016.

Full registration of \$200 includes meals and all programming.

Refund of registration: (less \$30) if cancellation is received by May 20, 2016

All sleeping rooms for the 2016 Gathering will be at the Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center in Sioux Falls, SD. **For reservations call: 1-605-336-0650 or 1-800-528-1234.** Mention your reservation is for the PW Gathering when you call for your room. Attendees are responsible for making their own hotel reservations and finding roommate(s). Only one person per hotel room should submit an online hotel reservation or call for the reservation, but should list the names of others to occupy that room. Room rates are \$95 per room, per night, one to four persons per room, plus tax. These room rates will apply 3 days before and 3 days after the gathering. Make it a vacation! To take advantage of the special Gathering rates, reserve your room by June 1. After this date, the hotel may charge higher rates. Parking is free at the hotel.

Registration: Registration form and additional gathering details are available on The Synod of Lakes and Prairies website, <http://www.lakesandprairies.org/> Click on the Presbyterian Women in the Synod link. The \$200 registration payment should be made out to PW Slap and sent with the reservation form to Sue Medsker-Nedderman, 314 N. Cedar Ave., Hastings, NE 68901

For further information contact: Joan Berglund at (402) 440-5478
Terri Sherman at (402) 525-6008
Kay Olson at (605) 366-2578

Horizons 2016-2017 Bible Study

Judy Yates Siker, author of *Who Is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes*, leads us on a journey of our hearts and minds into biblical passages we have come to love and cherish. We'll explore Jesus through the lenses of the Gospels of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John; Paul's writings; the book of Hebrews; the non-canonical gospels; the Abrahamic faiths of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; and who we as readers and interpreters believe Jesus to be. Suggestions for Leaders was prepared by Lynn Miller. It's not too late to receive a free copy of *Who Is Jesus?* with a subscription to Horizons magazine! *Subscribe by April 1, 2016 to receive this study (mailed in March). Subscribe at www.pcusa.org/horizons.*

Horizons Magazine & Bible Studies

Horizons is the magazine and Bible study for Presbyterian Women. It's how we stay connected! Every issue of Horizons provides ideas, inspiration and information for Presbyterian Women by addressing current issues facing the church and the world. The PWP Co-ordinating team encourages each PW to use the many Horizon resources and the annual Horizons Bible Study. The Bible Study is included in a subscription to the magazine.

Print subscriptions include six issues a year and an annual Bible study. Subscriptions must be received by April 1 to receive that year's Bible study (mailed March 15). Print subscribers also receive free digital access to the magazine! The magazine is published bi-monthly so please allow 8-12 weeks for your subscription to be processed. Subscription prices for print edition in the United States

1 Year (6 issues) \$24.95, 2 Years (12 issues) \$44.00, 3 Years (18 issues) \$63.00

Please note a limited number of 2015-2106 studies, Come to the Waters, will be available at the Spring Gathering. Future editions of the Horizons Bible study will no longer be available at the Spring and Fall gatherings. Order Bible studies by calling the Presbyterian Distribution Service—800/524-2612 (9 AM to 6 PM, EST, Monday—Thursday, 9 AM to 5:30 PM, EST, Friday). You may also go online to order (www.pcusa.org/store). Go to the Horizon's website for more information <http://www.pwpcusahorizons.com/>

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY NEED YOU!!!!

For many, Presbyterian Women has been an avenue of spiritual growth and opportunities for learning and serving, if you have found your experience with PW valuable you can give back and help us keep PW strong by participating on the PWP Co-ordinating team.

The Search Committee is currently looking to fill several opening which include the position of Historian as well as Secretary and Cluster Leaders for the Southern, Western and Eastern regions.

Cluster Leaders are the main contacts with the PW's in their region, assisting with information to and from the groups, most contact is done by phone or email. The historian will make sure that our annual reports are saved in a secure location and that photos and other material are saved to document the work of the women of the Presbytery. The Search Committee needs a third member to help find women to guide PW in their ministry and service. The secretary records the minutes of the Co-ordinating team meetings, generally three per year. This woman will not take office until next year after the end of the acting secretary's term. If you are interested in any of these positions or know a woman who would be a great fit for one of these leadership roles please share the name(s) with Kathleen Pilkington or Jill Cecil, members of the Search Committee. Thank-you.

SAVE THE DATE!!

The 2016 Fall Gathering of the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery is set for Saturday, October 1, at the Bettendorf Presbyterian Church, watch for details in the fall Voice.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Presbyterian Women Disaster Preparation Training



First Presbyterian Church in Cambridge, Ohio, following straight line winds in 2012. — *Photo by Pauline Albrecht, NRT*

**Saturday, June 18, 2016; noon to 5 pm
Sunday, June 19, 2016; 8 a.m. to noon
Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center
3200 W. Maple St, Sioux Falls, SD 57107**

Lightning. Storms. Floods. Hurricanes. Fires. Disasters bring chaos to hundreds of thousands of lives every year and have lasting effects. “Disaster Preparation Training” is a train-the-trainer event designed to give women the tools needed to conduct Disaster Preparedness workshops for churches, presbyteries and communities.

This training is for women only, by application only. You do not have to be a member of Presbyterian Women. Training expenses for this training will be reimbursed by PDA. You must attend the entire 8 hour training to be certified and commissioned as a PW-PDA DP trainer. Application and registration deadline is May 9, 2016.

Please email all applications/references to PDA; Beth.Snyder@pcusa.org, 888-728-7228 Ext 5806 or FAX to 502-569-5704. Applications are online at www.pcusa.org/pda, click **ACT** and **Volunteer**
For PW Synod of Lakes & Prairies Gathering information, please contact: Marilyn Stone, PWS moderator, 262-492-7921 (cell), mmstone52@att.net