



# **CONNECTIONS**

## ***Presbyterian Women of Wyoming***

### ***Summer 2010***

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## **Co-Moderators' Musings**

www. Presbyterian Women was the theme for our Spring Gathering held in Powell in April-did you figure out what www meant? No, it wasn't world wide web, but we were celebrating the wonderful women of Wyoming! (yes, and sometimes, we are a little wild, too) We did enjoy the technology though, as we heard our Churchwide Coordinating Team Moderator, Marta Rodriguez, speak to us via Skype. We also had power point presentations and looked at the PW web site. If you haven't heard, PCUSA has updated their web site and given it a new look since the recent General Assembly. Check out the new and improved web site at [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org)

We want to thank the Powell PW, church and staff for a wonderful Spring Gathering. The hospitality was warm and everyone was so welcoming. We had great food, wonderful worship and awesome entertainment. We were fortunate to hear the Rev. Dr. Bruce Ford present the introduction to the Revelation Bible study and lead us in worship on Friday evening. Bruce has been very supportive of PWP during his tenure in Wyoming and we are sad to see him leave, but sent him off with our prayers and blessings. The Friday evening entertainment provided by In Light of Eternity, a gospel trio, was inspirational. The next Spring Gathering will be held at Mountain View, WY, April 14-16, 2011. The theme will be "Walking with Jesus" and plans are in the works for another faith and fun filled weekend. Mark your calendars now and invite your friends.

As this is being written, we are looking forward to gathering with our sisters in faith for the annual Women's Retreat to be held at Camp Story. This event is being planned and hosted by the women from the Gillette church. We anticipate 40 women, which is great! We anticipate meeting new friends and renewing acquaintances with "old" ones. If you don't make it to this retreat, please make plans to attend next year's event to be held at Camp Skyline.

It is so important for us to stay connected with our PW sisters and all women in our church, so please share this newsletter with your church family and others. Feel free to use any of the information in here in your church newsletters, bulletins or programs. We look forward to seeing you at the retreat and Fall District Gatherings.

Peace and grace,

Freda Dixon and Gail Heimback, PWP Co-Moderators



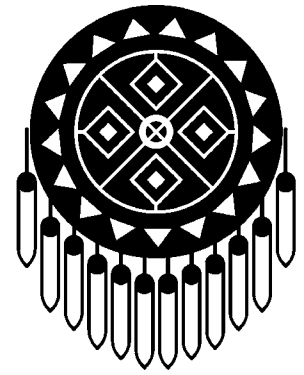
## USA MISSION EXPERIENCE TRIP 2010

### “Meeting Our Sisters in South Dakota”

Gail Heimbeck has been selected as the Synod of the Rocky Mountains participant to the USA Mission Experience trip to South Dakota September 9-16, 2010. The participants will meet Native American women and learn about the issues that concern them—land development, food, farming, church leadership, health and social issues; visit reservations, schools, churches, tribal colleges and historical sites and hear the voices of our sisters and respond, building mutually-supportive relationships.

This mission experience will provide the opportunity to meet with Presbyterian sisters living on reservations in Sisseton, Flandreau, Chamberlain and Pine Ridge, South Dakota. You can learn more about the PCUSA’s Native American congregations by visiting [www.pcusa.org/nativeamerican](http://www.pcusa.org/nativeamerican).

Financial support is requested to help meet the expenses for this trip and for the future trips to share the experience around the synod. A suggested offering of \$1 per member can be forwarded to Kathy Surratt, PWP Treasurer. You can also support Gail and the group with your prayers as they make this journey. She is looking forward to sharing her experiences and the issues concerning our Presbyterian sisters of the Sioux people throughout the synod in the 2 years following the trip. Please contact Gail at 836-2293 or [bbtchr@gmail.com](mailto:bbtchr@gmail.com) to schedule a presentation at your church, PW, or other event.



**NATIVE-  
AMERICAN**  
M I N I S T R Y

## TOGETHER IN SERVICE “REPORTS”

Together in Service, introduced at the PW Churchwide Gathering in 2006, is the mission program of Presbyterian Women. This program replaced the previous Mission Opportunities program. You may recall that under this program each synod was assigned mission projects, such as rolling bandages, making baby gowns, making or purchasing blankets. Together in Service does not require these assignments but leaves the decision as to their mission projects to the local Presbyterian Women groups. These projects can be local, national or international and can cover any need that you find in your area or church. You can find suggestions for projects, such as making blankets, baby hats, or other baby items, donations of sheets, supporting denominational and ecumenical programs (Hunger Program, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, etc.), supporting ecumenical programs, (Least Coin, Heifer Project, etc.), and other ideas by reading and using the Together in Service guide, available from the Presbyterian Distribution Service.

Melinda Brazzale is our presbytery coordinator for Mission, Justice and Peace. She is asked to report to the synod coordinator (who happens to be Jane Malone) each year what our presbytery has done for mission. **She needs your reports or stories by November 1 to do this.** You can send your report in e-mail or snail mail format to Melinda. You can use the form found on pages 19-20 of the Together in Service guide or any other format you choose. We know you are doing great mission so now we just need to report it!

Please send your report or stories (pictures can be included) to Melinda Brazzale at:

616 Shaun Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82009  
307-778-7009  
[mbrazz2@bresnan.net](mailto:mbrazz2@bresnan.net)

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE SYNOD OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS GATHERING

**“Let justice roll on like a river, Righteousness like a never-failing stream”. Amos 5:24**

Jane Malone, Freda Dixon, Heather Dixon and Gail Heimbeck attended the Triennial Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Rocky Mountains Leadership Training and Gathering in Billings in June. Keynote speakers were past PW Churchwide Coordinator Catrelia Hunter and PW Vice Moderator for Justice and Peace, Chris Wolf. Jane presented a workshop on Living Waters for the World, Laura Anderson of Central Asia Institute spoke to us about Greg Mortensen’s project of building schools in Afghanistan and Sandy Olson of Alternatives for Simple Living also spoke. Peggie Oury led us in the Bible study on Amos, Matthew 25, and Luke 10. The recurring theme was justice, and ways for us to identify the needs of those suffering injustice and how we can take action against injustice. Our Synod Moderator, Wanda Beaman, related the vision of the women of Zimbabwe and gave thanks for the more than 2,000 Bible studies and books that were offered for the Presbytery of Zimbabwe this year.

Participants enjoyed a dramatic presentation “This is God...I Need You!, A petition to the Almighty”, which gave them a view of God’s perspective of what we are to be doing in His Name in this world. Chris Wolfe spoke about the 3 Ps-prayer, praise, and play which leads to peace, purpose and power. Chris challenged us to speak out for victims who have suffered injustice, including survivors of abuse. It is our responsibility to especially advocate for women who have been victims of violence, by monitoring legislation at all levels of government. We need to be involved JOYFULLY in all of God’s work.

Dr. Catrelia Hunter spoke to us on the UN Commission on the Status of Women, in which PW has participated since 2006. The UN Millennium Development Goals which are to be met by 2015 have not all been met yet and there is a lot of work to do. Check out the Presbyterian UN Office on the PCUSA web site for more information. Women are encouraged to apply to be on the PW delegation to the United Nations. This group will meet in New York in early March. Please contact Catrelia Hunter at [hunter\\_catrelia@yahoo.com](mailto:hunter_catrelia@yahoo.com) if you are

### PRAYER FOR THE GIRL CHILD

When I grow up  
Please let me:  
Be Safe  
Learn to read and write  
Live with my parents  
And my brothers and sisters.  
And not be sold  
As an indentured servant  
Or a sex slave.  
Have enough food and clean water  
To enable healthy body and mind  
Keep my Sexual Organs  
Intact and not mutilated.  
Allowed to love and marry  
The person of my choice  
Enabled to keep the children that I bear;  
And to bear as many as I choose.  
When I grow up  
May I discover a world populated by all who  
honor peace, and one another,  
When I grow up  
May all be as one.  
By Susan Stutman



*“Many women do  
noble things, but you  
surpass them all.”*

*Proverbs 31:29, NIV*

## “SHERRY’S FUND”

Offerings in the amount of \$705 were given in love and in honor of Sherry Flyr at our Spring Gathering in Powell. Sherry selected the Dora Memorial School in Ghana as the recipient of this gift. Sherry visited the school during the 2002 Global Exchange to Africa and was hosted by the founder and director of the school, Vida Dzobo. Sherry came back to our synod and presbytery with the story of the school and we responded with gifts and offerings. Many girls have benefited from scholarships to attend the school and the school has been able to complete some building projects due to your generous offerings. The recent offering will be used for a new cafeteria roof and or perimeter wall at the Dora Memorial School Complex. This gift in support of the mission and ministry of the church makes it possible to be a visible presence of God’s redeeming love for all people. Thank you to all who made this possible.

### PW LEADERSHIP GUIDES

All local moderators and PWP CT members should have a PW Leadership Guide. This binder of resources and helpful materials was given to moderators and CT members at the 2007 Spring Gathering in Gillette. If you are no longer serving in that office, we hope that you have passed on your Leadership Guide to the succeeding officer. We want to make a plan at the CT meeting in August to reorganize the Leadership Guides. If you are not at the meeting, please let Gail or Freda know what you need for your guide.

## FALL DISTRICT GATHERINGS

PW Fall District Gatherings are scheduled and being planned for all women to gather in fellowship and with God. We will bring you PW updates in mission and organization, a report on the PWS Triennial gathering and other PW news. This is an opportunity for Presbyterian Women to meet with their PW sisters in their district, make new friends and learn more about PW.

The gatherings are scheduled as follows:

District I-October 6 at Sheridan

District II-October 9 at Torrington

District III-TBA at Encampment

District IV-October 2 at Cody

District V-September 22 at Mountain View

Your District Leadership Coordinator will be in touch with the local moderators to share specific details about time, etc. We look forward to seeing you and sharing PW news with you. Bring your ideas and your PW news, too, to share with others.

## CAMPERS KNITTING BABY CAPS

Heather Dixon, a counselor at our 2010 Presbyterian Church camps at Camp Story and Skyline Camp, had campers make baby hats for our Together in Service mission project. These caps were made on looms during the campers’ craft sessions. They will be sent to the Brethren Service Center in New Windsor, Maryland and then sent to Africa. These baby caps may be included in baby layettes, which include baby blankets and gowns. Many of you have made these blankets and hats during our Spring Gatherings-thank you! We give a BIG THANK YOU to Heather and the campers for making more baby hats that will be well used in Africa. Heather is the daughter of Freda and JD Dixon and spent 2 years in The Gambia, a small country in Africa, with the Peace Corps.



Baby Caps

# SHALL WE GATHER IN ORLANDO?

The 2012 Churchwide Gathering theme is Rivers of Hope based on Psalm 46:4-5.

“There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

Save the date for the PW Churchwide Gathering to be held July 18-22, 2012 at the Gaylord Palms, Orlando, Florida. Mark it in pen on your calendar now-you won't want to miss it. Now is the time to make plans for this event and to start saving. Local PWs are encouraged to assist women in attending this triennial event by providing scholarships. Let's take a big group to Orlando in 2012!

## A NEW TYPE OF BIBLE STUDY HELP

In nine, six minute video sessions, author Barbara Rossing introduced each Journeys Through Revelation lesson. The video is available free on the Horizons web site ([www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons)). Start your Bible study or circle meeting with the video or use the summaries to prepare for teaching or to enhance your understanding. To order the Horizons Bible studies, and other resources, please call Presbyterian Distribution Service toll free 800/524/2612. There are also other free downloadable resources available at [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons).

## HORIZONS SUBSCRIPTIONS AND BIBLE STUDIES

Subscribers to Horizons magazine are entitled to receive free as part of their subscription the regular-print, English-language Bible study mailed each year in March. A one-year subscription is \$24.95-that's a bargain and a 2-year subscription is \$44.00 and a 3-year subscription is \$63.00, and those multi-year subscriptions are an even bigger savings. Subscribe by April 1 to receive that year's Bible study, a \$13.25 value (\$8.00 for the study and \$5.25 for shipping). Subscribe to Horizons by calling toll free 866-802-3635; online at [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons); or by writing Horizons/Presbyterian Women, PO Box 421, Congers, NY 10920-0421.

## JOIN THE PW COMMUNITY ON FACEBOOK!

You don't have to wait three years for a Churchwide Gathering to visit national and international PW sisters. Presbyterian Women now has a virtual gathering place. If you do not yet have a Facebook page, simply go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and sign up. If you already have a page, type Presbyterian Women into the search field at the top of the page. You will see a list of PW pages, including Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA). This is the national PW page. Click that link and once on the page, click the button, "become a fan." While you are there, create a page for your local and watch here for a page for PW in the Presbytery of Wyoming.

## SEARCHING SARA NEEDS YOU

God doesn't call on those who are qualified, he calls on those who are willing and then he qualifies them.

God is at work here in the Presbytery of Wyoming, the Synod of the Rocky Mountains and in our PW Churchwide. Search committees at all of these levels are looking for willing women to serve in a variety of roles. We are seeking women who would like to serve as a District Leadership Coordinator, a Vice-Moderator or Secretary for our PWP. Please contact Carolyn Kearns, our Search Committee Moderator, at 307-272-2853 if you are interested or would like to nominate someone (with their consent). Please contact Gail or Freda if you are interested in serving at the Synod or Churchwide level.

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN MISSION PROJECTS

## Project Peanut Butter

Are you looking for a new project to get involved with? You might want to consider Project Peanut Butter.

Did you know that 70 percent of all children in Malawi are malnourished? Dr. Mark Manary, a pediatrician in St. Louis, founded Project Peanut Butter to change that. Manary (who was raised by a Presbyterian woman) had an idea. According to the project's informational brochure, "His idea included providing a high protein, lipid-dense paste rich in nutrients, for a multi-week feeding therapy. He experimented with a mixture of ground, roasted peanuts, vegetable oil, powdered milk, vitamins, minerals, and sugar. It can be stored, unrefrigerated, for months without spoiling and transported to villages for home based therapy. Manary put this early ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) into trials in rural Malawi, and recovery rates skyrocketed to 90 percent."

To find out more about Project Peanut Butter, check out their web site: [www.projectpeanutbutter.org](http://www.projectpeanutbutter.org)

## Church World Service Kits

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Wyoming assembled 56 Hygiene kits, 12 Baby kits and 82 School kits that were sent to Church World Service. Thank you to everyone who so generously donated supplies and time to assemble these kits. They will be well used overseas or here at home. We received a letter from Church World Service which stated "Since the earthquake in Haiti, CWS has provided more than 31,000 Hygiene Kits, some 5,400 Baby Care Kits and more than 4,000 Blankets. Together, we help people rebuild a life of hope. Your donation of CWS Kits helps meet needs in the wake of catastrophe and conveys the consoling message that they are not alone in their struggle to recover. Kits are a gift of hope in a time of need. Thank you."

PWP also sent \$226.48 to help cover shipping costs from Arkansas to the areas in need of kits. Thank you again for your generous donations of supplies and monetary offerings.

Local PW groups are encouraged to participate in the CWS Kit program or the Blankets Plus program. Call 888-297-2767 for more information.



## TOP TEN REASONS TO BECOME INVOLVED IN PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

1. Use your time in meaningful ways.
2. Meet new people and make new friends.
3. Give direction to the future of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
4. Learn marketable skills, gain valuable experiences and share these with others.
5. Transfer your Christian belief into action.
6. Discover new outlets for creative expression and feel a sense of accomplishment.
7. Gain a sense of making a contribution to the lives of others.
8. Enjoy the fellowship and fun of working with others for a common purpose.
9. Grow and develop personally as a Christian woman and disciple of Christ.
10. Be challenged by Christ's call to be servant leaders.

# ***CELEBRATE CELEBRATION GIVING!***

Fall is almost here and it is time to think again about our 2011 Mission Pledge to Presbyterian Women. We make this commitment in response to God's blessings to us as individuals, groups and churches. It is not meant to replace your giving to your church, but is intended as a second-mile giving. Many of our PWs take their mission pledge out of their treasuries, but some take individual pledges from members. It is up to you as a group and as an individual to make this pledge as you desire. We will be sending out the 2011 Mission Pledge forms in the fall and your co-moderators will provide programming and be able to answer any questions at the Fall District Gatherings. We are also available at any time to answer your questions or to be a resource for your PW group.

**Celebration Giving** has these components and programs:

*Celebration of Mission through Women's Pledges*-The PW Mission Pledge

*Celebration of Creative Ministries*-The Birthday Offering and Thank Offering

*Celebration of Believers*-The Honorary Life Memberships, Memorial gifts, Recognition gifts, the Leadership Endowment Fund and The Widening the Circle Fund

*Celebration of Christian Community*-Fellowship of the Least Coin, World Day of Prayer, Church Women United

*Together in Service programs*-Mission programs

Whenever Christians respond to God's love, we celebrate and we share. This may be a prayer of thanksgiving, an outpouring of kindness or a gift of money. Whatever the response, it is an act of sharing and celebration.

As Presbyterian women, we celebrate God's love by "doing mission" the PW way-that is, responding in love to the needs of God's creation through the PW celebration Giving program. Celebration Giving provides many opportunities for Presbyterian women to give and receive.

Thank you for your support of Presbyterian Women.

## **THANK OFFERING**

***"Grace 'with Thanksgiving' Abounds"***

**Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving to the glory of God. 2 Corinthians 4:15 (NRSV)**

The Thank Offering is a PW offering collected in the fall of each year that gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. The offering funds projects such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns. At least 40 percent of this offering supports health ministries throughout the world. The remaining 60 percent funds new creative ideas for mission.

PW in the Congregations typically collect the Thank Offering in the fall and dedicate their offerings at fall gatherings. No giving guidelines are suggested other than "give as you are blessed." PWCs who collect the Offering should send their donation (as a check made payable to Treasurer of Presbyterian Women) with a PW Remittance Form to the treasurer of PW in the Presbytery, Kathy Surratt.

You can read the list of the 2010 Thank Offering grant recipients in the July/August issue of Horizons Magazine. There is also a dedication service for your group's use. There are many free resources available through Presbyterian Distribution service, including bulletin covers, posters and other items. A list of the cost and free items is available on the back cover of the July/August Horizons. Each church can receive the 2010 Thank Offering promotional packet by calling Presbyterian Distribution Service at 800/524/2612.



# **CONNECTIONS**

*Presbyterian Women of Wyoming*

*118 East 9th Street*

*Casper, Wyoming 82601*

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE  
CASPER, WY  
PERMIT # 74

## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE PRESBYTERY OF WYOMING COORDINATING TEAM 2010-2011**

Co-Moderators:	Freda Dixon Gail Heimbuck
Vice-Moderator:	Vacant
Secretary:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Kathy Surratt
Search Committee Moderator:	Carolyn Kearns
Mission, Justice & Peace Coordinator:	Melinda Brazzale
Historian:	Jane Malone
Newsletter Editor:	Gail Heimbuck
Horizons Representative:	Marie Fontaine
District I Moderator:	Dianna Perry
District II Moderator:	Vacant
District III Moderator:	Janet Hare
District IV Moderator:	Robin Carter
District V Moderator:	Gladys Irish

