

Loaves & Fishes

PW Synod of the Southwest

Issue # 42



Moderator's Message

As always, there are a lot of things happening with Presbyterian Women (PW)! Each of you have interesting and inspiring PW Spring Gatherings in your Presbyteries coming soon! And I just recently learned that the PW Churchwide Coordinating Team announced that the next Churchwide PW Gathering will be held in Louisville,

KY August 2-5, 2018!

As your PW Synod Moderator, I of course, especially want to invite you to attend our PW Synod of the Southwest Gathering this coming October!

The new *Horizons* Bible Study, "Who is Jesus?" What a Difference a Lens Makes" will be out soon and we are so fortunate to have the author, Judy Yates Siker, with us to share her personal insights! Katherine Reeves, Mission Associate for Presbyterian Women, will help us consider "Mission Matters Because God's People Matter" in her workshops and address. Additionally, Amy Poling Sutherland, former Young Adult Volunteer (YAV), and now PC (USA) Teaching Elder in San Marco, Texas, is in the process of writing the 2018-2019 *Horizons* Bible under the working title "God's Promises". In addition to her workshops, Amy will be our worship leader during the Gathering!

You'll also have quiet time to bask in the beauty at the Franciscan Renewal Center and to greet old friends and make new ones! Additional information along with the registration form can be found further along in this newsletter. So, please, talk to your friends and plan to attend the Presbyterian Women Synod of the South-

west Gathering October 28 - 30, 2016 at the Franciscan Renewal Center, 5802 E Lincoln, Scottsdale AZ! We look forward to meeting you there!

Thank you to all the individuals, churches and groups that have sent in funds for "Mary and Martha", that's Mary Danforth and Martha Ashton who will be representing our Synod at the PW USA Mission Experience in San Francisco this September. I look forward to hearing about their experiences and hope you will invite one of them to come to your PW group following their trip. And, just so you know, it's not too late to send in support money to our PW Synod Treasurer, Susan McMichael!

Thank you also to all of you for continuing support of Presbyterian Women at the Congregational, Presbytery, Synod and Churchwide levels! Your gifts of time, talent and money are so vital to YOUR organization! May God continue to bless your work and the ministry of Presbyterian Women!

Beverly Roselieb
broselieb@cox.net

P.S. Plans are percolating to hold a Presbyterian Women/ Presbyterian Disaster Assistance PW/PDA Training Event just after the Gathering, Sunday afternoon and Monday morning. Watch for further details if this is something that peaks your interest!

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Report from PWCCT meeting February, 2016 **Peggy Free, Synod of the Southwest Representative**

Your CCT met recently in Louisville for a very busy and productive meeting. Here are some of the highlights:

The 2018 PW Churchwide Gathering will be held August 2 – 5 at the Galt House in Louisville. Theme and other details will be available soon.

The Bible Study committee chose the Ten Commandments for 2019 – 20

The 2017 Global Exchange will be going to Indonesia. Information, applications and further details to follow.

The focus for the 2016 – 2018 trienium is “Educate a Child, Transform the World.” Some things your church can do are, Adopt an elementary school in your area; organize an afterschool center; volunteer as a tutor/mentor; attend school functions. For more information see pcusa.org/child

Knitting 4 Peace has been adopted as a PW Together in Service partner

Four recipients have been chosen to receive the Birthday Offering in the amount of \$551,115.

Thanks Offering applications are being reviewed.

We would like to learn about former recipients of Thank and Birthday Offerings. If you know of one in your area, please visit them to see what has happened to them. Write something about them, take a picture if possible, and send it to me at: freeneazy37@gmail.com.

Birthday Offering recipients in Synod of the Southwest:

1998 Martineztown House of Neighborly Service, Albuquerque

2001 The Ganado Mission Centennial Project, Ganado

2004 Camp Luminaria, Santa Fe

2011 Menaul School, Albuquerque

2014 Blue Corn Mothers Alliance, Albuquerque

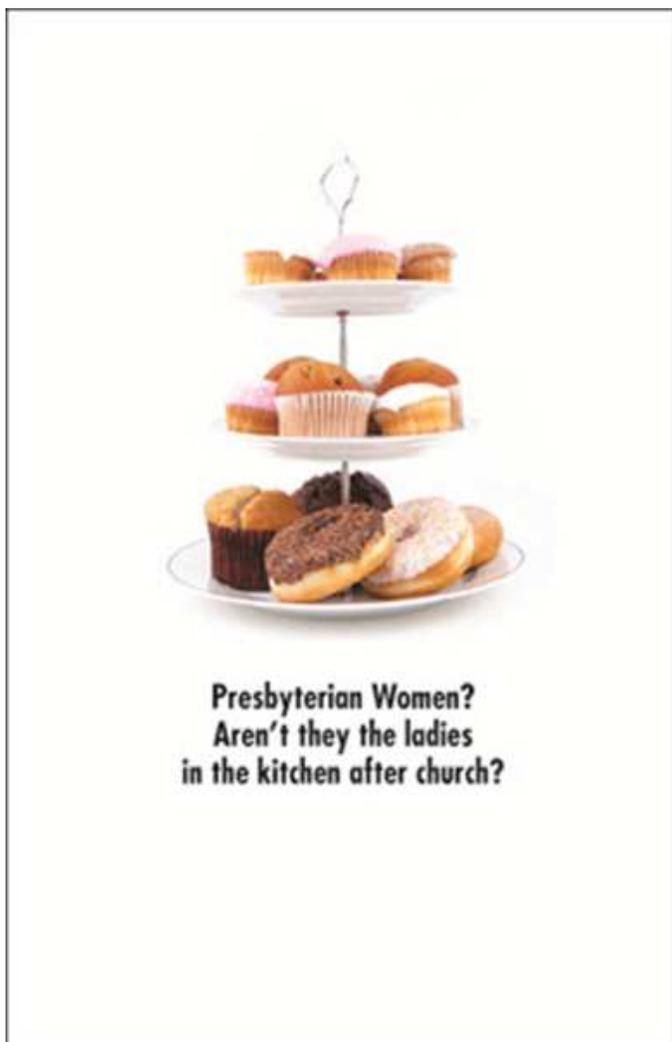
For Thank Offering recipients in Synod of the Southwest see the attached sheet.



Think you know Presbyterian Women?

A new series of light-hearted and happily serious posters help show the range of what it means to be Presbyterian Women. Feel free to share (on bulletin boards or refrigerator doors, in newsletters or in circle meetings!). This (gentle) educational campaign will challenge everyone to rethink what it means to be a part of Presbyterian Women.

This is the first of a series of “Think Again” posters that can be found at:
<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/pw/think-you-know-pw/>



**“Presbyterian Women? Aren't they the ladies
in the kitchen after church?”**



Yes, Presbyterian Women have been known to offer hospitality in their congregations. They also boldly work for peace and justice, giving voice to the oppressed and standing up for the marginalized.

**Think you know Presbyterian Women?
Think again and prepare to be amazed!**

Visit us at www.presbyterianwomen.org





MASS INCARCERATION in the USA

We choose to Educate – based on hope, or Incarcerate – based on fear

The following are some facts about incarceration in the United States, and are taken from the Drug Policy Task Force of the PC (USA):

+The United States has less than 5% of the world's population, but 25% of the world's incarcerated people.

+Even though whites outnumber blacks five to one and both groups use and sell drugs at similar rates, African Americans comprise 35% of those arrested for drug possession, 55% of those convicted for drug possession, and 74% of those imprisoned for drug possession. If we want to pursue “fair”, 80% of the people imprisoned for drugs would be white, not around 25%.

+Police departments receive federal government subsidies of cash and equipment according to the number of drug arrests they make. While most people think of the word war, (as in drug war) as a metaphor, increasingly we are seeing military rules of engagement, weapons and tactics to deal with drug law enforcement in our country.

+As the demand for drugs in the United States has increased, so has violence in Latin America associated with drug production and trafficking increased, which causes more misery in those countries, and leads to families fleeing to the United States to escape violence.

+The drug war's criminalization of drugs has not meaningfully reduced the availability of drugs.

+The industry of private prisons has made incarceration a money-making business, removing the state from responsibility to help incarcerated people rehabilitate and be able to reintegrate into society.

With these facts in mind, let's examine how our desire to punish has led to funding massive private prisons. Our choice in the past 40 years as a society has been to be punitive. Private prisons have prospered in this climate. They have been generously funded because of the influence they have in Congress. Due to their concern over maximizing profits for shareholders, for-profit prisons don't educate prisoners or prepare them for release or success in outside life. They lobby for more prisons, for more beds, and of course more money for them, costing taxpayers much more than might be thought, more than only taxes.

Drug policies have given rise to mandatory sentences, giving judges no leeway or choices. Abusing drugs and alcohol and problems of mental illness are diseases. People fighting them need help – but often they get prison instead.

Incarceration today reflects policies that go back to slavery, with the racist bias that some people aren't as worthy of justice or as deserving of mercy as others. The war on drugs continues to be a war on people of color. And there is a much better outcome if you are powerful, rich and guilty than if you are poor and guilty, or even poor and innocent. In Matthew 25, we are told by Jesus that being compassionate to God's people is as if we are showing compassion to our Lord. God is giving us words to speak – speak them and the world is shaken!

Joan Fenton, Justice and Peace Rep. For a Mass Incarceration workshop, contact me: rjfenton5@gmail.com

LEARN MORE:

Justiceunbound.org

Presbyterianmission.org/ministries/acswp/

Famm.org

Noplaceforachild.com

Presbyterianmission.org

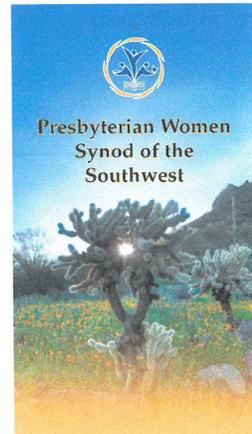
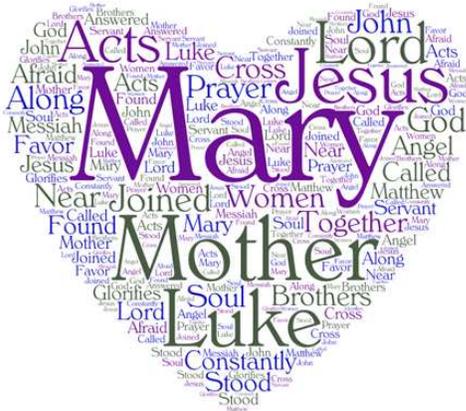
Phewa.org/criminaljustice

The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander

Falling into Place, by Hattie Coffman

Mighty Be Our Powers, by Leymah Gbowee





Spring is Here!

Presbyterian Women in Presbytery de Cristo are gathering at Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley, Arizona on April 2, 2016 8:30-2:00 pm.

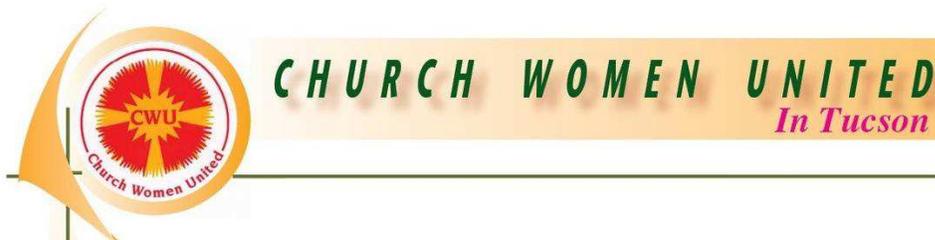
In our review of the following Scripture, we are going to be sharing Mary's courage and heart.

Acts 1:14 "They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers."

Cheryl Larson, Moderator-Elect from Tortolita Presbyterian Church, Tucson, Arizona will be installed as moderator of Presbyterian Women in Presbytery de Cristo. She is currently also serving on the Ministry for Witness and Outreach.

Please join us.

For additional information email Bonnie Thompson at jobodo@earthlink.net



Church Women United will hold the May Friendship Day on May 7, 2016 9:30 am at Northminster Presbyterian Church. The celebration will be a potluck luncheon.

For more information email Bonnie Thompson at jobodo@earthlink.net



Santa Fe Presbytery



GATHERINGS

Our Fall Gathering October 24, 2015 had as its theme "Thirsting for Righteousness". There were two very interesting programs: a presentation regarding Dismas House, which is a halfway house (actually apartments) for people, men and women, who have completed incarceration. Some of the leaders and volunteers spoke about this program, then Jesus Gomez spoke about his experience as a resident.

He also told us about the psychotic break that caused him to attack a police officer, which is the reason he was incarcerated. Our other presentation was about the Menaul Historical Society. We were told about its history, and were shown fascinating photos of buildings - past and present - and of teachers and medical personnel who came to the southwest to establish schools and hospitals. We received favorable feedback from the attendees, and in one instance someone asked about contacting Mr. Gomez (who now lives on his own and is a Deacon at an Albuquerque Presbyterian church), because her grandson needs a mentor as he works his way through the legal system. The final segment of this Gathering was "Memories of Minneapolis", in which our 20+ attendees briefly told about what had been highlights for them.

The theme for the upcoming Spring Gathering is "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with Presbyterian Women!" We are delighted that Joan Fenton will bring her iconic programs to us: Seven Levels of

Misunderstanding, and In Her Shoes. This will take place on March 12th. This will also be when Necrology reports are given and Least Coin offerings presented. The women have also been asked to bring toiletries for the Dismas House women. PW's hosting Gatherings choose when the offering during worship will go.

MISSION GIVING

Our largest donations recently have gone to Menaul School. A donation was made for Mary Danforth's ME this year, and money has been set aside to help people attend the Triennial in October. Several churches participate in the Thank and Birthday offerings, as well as Least Coin. Recently were asked to help to help the Presbytery youth with attending a retreat. There are several PWCs that pledge to our PWP even though they almost never attend gatherings. They give a significant amount to the PWP budget.

OTHER INFORMATION

A member of PW in Santa Fe Presbytery has submitted a proposal for a Thank Offering Grant. Susan Smith has made several trips to the country of Cuba, and is asking for funding for The Christian Institute of Gender Studies there. They hope to create a video library and to hold conferences bringing together women from other parts of Latin America. There are several goals, one being to address women's self-esteem issues in a male dominated culture. Let's watch to see if it is approved this year!





Presbyterian Women in Grand Canyon Presbytery Leadership

In January we had a great development leadership event. Most of the women present were interested in mission and program ideas. Mary Danforth spoke to the group on Mission, Jerry Benz discussed the Fellowship of the least coin and Judy Lippman shared the importance of our wonderful Horizon magazine.

Spring Gathering

The title of our Spring Gathering, “Mission Matters Because God’s People Matter” will be held Saturday, April 16th at Faith Presbyterian Church. Our Keynote Speakers will be Winnie Fritz who was the 2015 Citation of Merit recipient, Judy Persons who serves as Vice-Moderator for Mission Relations for the Churchwide Coordinating Team and Bonnie Thompson who was our Global Exchange Representative to the Caribbean last year.

Bible Study

In April Rev. Bev Phillips and Chris Casanova will present two Bible studies on “Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes”.

We are looking forward to the Spring Gathering and the Bible Studies next month.

Carole Jean Soine
PWP Moderator



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE SYNOD OF THE SOUTHWEST

TRIENNIAL GATHERING

FRANCISCAN RENEWAL CENTER
5802 E. LINCOLN
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85253

OCTOBER 28 - 30, 2016



AN OVERVIEW

- * Theme: **"WHO IS JESUS?"**
- * Activities: **Worship, Bible Study, Fellowship, Music, Meditation, Workshops, Free Time, Choir**
- * Speakers: **Judy Yates Siker, Kathy Reeves, Amy Poling Sutherlun**

AN ABBREVIATED SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28
Check-In - 4:00 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 - 7:00
Evening Program - 7:15

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29
Morning Meditation - 7:30
Breakfast 8:00 - 9:00
Morning Program 9:15
Workshops 10:45 - 11:45
Lunch - 11:30 - 12:30
Workshops - 1:00 - 2:00
Workshops - 2:15 - 3:15
Free Time Opportunities 3:30 - 6:00
Dinner - 6:00 - 7:00
Evening Program - 7:15

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30
Morning Meditation - 7:30
Breakfast 8:00 - 9:00
Worship 9:30
Lunch - 12:00

REGISTRATION:

- Registration is due by October 8, 2016
- * Please use the attached registration form
 - * Send registration form and payment to:
Susan McMichael, 227 W 9th Place South, Mesa, AZ 85201
480-

CANCELLATIONS:

- Regretfully we must adhere to a stringent Cancellation Policy
- * Full refund on cancellations received on or before October 8
 - * No refund on cancellations received after October 8.



**DIRECTIONS TO:
FRANCISCAN RENEWAL CENTER
5802 E LINCOLN DRIVE
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85253**

COMING FROM THE NORTH ON I-17S TO PHOENIX

Take exit 214C to merge onto AZ-101 Loop
.3 miles - Keep left to merge onto AZ-101 Loop E
6.5 miles - From AZ101 Loop E -Take exit 29 to merge onto AZ-51S
6.1 miles - From AZ 51S Take exit 9 onto Shea Blvd. E
1.8 miles - Continue on Shea Blvd E to N Tatum Blvd.
Turn right onto N. Tatum Blvd
3.6 miles - Continue on N Tatum Blvd to E Lincoln Drive
Turn left onto E Lincoln Drive
Continue on E Lincoln Drive for 1.1 miles
Franciscan Renewal Center will be on your left

COMING FROM THE SOUTH ON I-10W TO PHOENIX

Take exit 153A to merge onto AZ-143N toward Sky Harbor
4.3 miles turn left onto E McDowell Rd
.3 miles turn right onto N 44th St
5 miles turn right onto E Lincoln Drive
1.1 miles turn left
Destination is on the north side of E Lincoln Drive

A BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE WORKSHOPS

JUDY YATES SIKER - Author of *Horizons* Bible Study, Who is Jesus?

Workshop 1 - Jesus of the Gospels

The workshop will introduce the topic of Jesus as seen in the Gospels and offer some ideas about what is included in the first four lessons along with some ideas on approaching the topic.

Workshop 2 - Beyond the Gospels: How Others Tell the Story

This workshop will cover the approaches of the other lessons according to Paul? according to Hebrews? according to the non-canonical gospels?, according to the other Abrahamic faiths?, according to contemporary cultural interpretations?,

KATHY REEVES - Mission Associate, Presbyterian Women Staff

Workshop 1 - Mission Trips - Why We Go

Mission trips are instrumental in developing “global Christians” in a world that is increasingly interdependent. Through mission trips, we learn more about what God is doing through the Church worldwide, we learn more about other people who share God’s creation, and we experience the church universal and God’s purpose for it. Explore different reasons for embarking on mission trips, and how they impact the ministry and mission of Presbyterian Women.

Workshop 2 - Planning a Mission Trip

With careful planning a mission trip can be a powerful, life transforming experience. This workshop will help us identify “best practices” that will enhance our mission trip experiences.

AMY POLING SUTHERLUN - author of 2018-2019 *Horizons* Bible Study, God’s Promises

Workshop 1 - *Unforsaken*: The Promises of God’s Presence

We will laugh and gasp, and discover and learn together as we trace the thread of God’s “I will be with you promise” through the pages of Scripture.

Workshop 2 - *Pillows into Pillars*: Charting and Sharing the Story of God’s Faithfulness in Our Own Lives

Inspired by the story of Jacob at Bethel (Genesis 28), we will explore and begin to tell the story of our own individual experiences of God’s faithful presence in our lives.

FREE TIME OPPORTUNITIES

During your free time explore the Franciscan Renewal Center, Desert Walkways, the Labyrinth and the Healing Garden. Or take part in learning about Prayer Beads, Praying with Mandalas, Music and Meditation and more!



PW SYNOD OF SOUTHWEST GATHERING October 28-30, 2016
FRANCISCAN RENEWAL CENTER
5802 E. Lincoln Scottsdale, AZ 85253
REGISTRATION

Name _____
 Address: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____ Cell: _____ email: _____
 Church: _____ Presbytery: _____

FULL REGISTRATION: Includes program fees, 2 nights lodging + 6 meals
 Lodging Friday Oct 28 and Saturday Oct 29
 Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast,
 Sunday lunch

Private occupancy room \$300.00 \$ _____
 Double occupancy room \$230.00/per person \$ _____
 Roommate: _____

FRIDAY NIGHT ONLY: Includes program fees, 1 night lodging + 4 meals
 Lodging Friday Oct 28
 Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner

Private occupancy room \$180.00 \$ _____
 Double occupancy room \$150.00/per person \$ _____
 Roommate: _____

SATURDAY NIGHT ONLY: Includes program fees, 1 night lodging + 4 meals
 Lodging Saturday Oct 29
 Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast, Sunday lunch

Private occupancy room \$180.00 \$ _____
 Double occupancy room \$150.00/per person \$ _____
 Roommate: _____

COMMUNTER: No lodging. Includes selected meals & program fees.

Friday dinner \$60.00 \$ _____
 Saturday lunch \$60.00 \$ _____
 Saturday dinner \$60.00 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: Check # _____ \$ _____

DO YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION FROM SKY HARBOR AIRPORT?

Airline _____ Flight # _____
 Date _____ Arrival time _____

Airline _____ Flight # _____
 Date _____ Departure time _____

ROOM PREFERENCE. There are no elevators
 I will need a room on the 1st floor. Yes No

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS
 The Franciscan Center serves buffet meals. The menu includes selections that will satisfy most special diets.

CHOIR
 I would like to participate in the choir Yes No

REGISTRATION DUE BY OCT 8, 2016
Make checks payable to:
 PW Synod of the Southwest (PWSS)

CANCELLATIONS: We must adhere to a stringent cancellation policy.

Full refund on cancellations received on or before Oct. 8
Regretfully, no refunds on cancellations after Oct. 8.

Send registration form and payment to:

Susan McMichael
 227 W. 9th Place South
 Mesa, AZ 85201
 480-969-6482 msmcmichael@cox.net