

An online and print newsletter of Presbyterian Women/ National Capital Presbytery
www.presbyterianwomenncp.org

This newsletter is designed to be on our WEB site as well as printed and distributed in digital or ink forms. You will notice that there are various references to 'more' which can be found by clicking on the word in the digital version or going to our Web site to obtain the online version. Please circulate this newsletter freely and encourage your friends to join us online. Blogging is available under **SHARING** tab, let us know what is happening in your PW groups.

Spring Gathering & Business Meeting

Featuring
Rev. Kay Huggins,
Horizons Bible Study
for 2014-15

April 26th
9:00 – 12:30pm

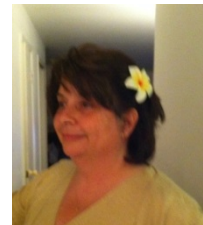
Trinity Presbyterian
Church in Herndon

Flyer and Registration
Attached and [Online](#)

PW – Synod of the Mid- Atlantic Summer Gathering June 5-8 2014

Massanetta Springs, VA

Registration Form
www.pwsynodmidatlantic.org



Food Justice is the emphasis of our PW/NCP Programs for 2014

Please see the [News](#) section in our WEB pages to read my report as of March 29th, 2014. Note especially that we will be doing the Linus Blanket project once again at our Synod Summer Gathering and that our Presbytery PW's will be donating baskets of goodies for the Silent Auction. Line dancing at the Nook is on the Friday night agenda!

Mission – Jan Summers

Have you thought about the linkage between mission and social justice--remembering Jesus' teachings about helping and advocating as the basis for living into our faith? The two are so closely related that it can be hard to work on one without the other. And each of us can participate in a wider walk as we live into our faith. Here is one example from the "Greater Good Network" web site:

"Ben Simon was a student at the University of Maryland, College Park when he saw a genuine problem. The university cafeteria, having no other option for dealing with meal leftovers, was throwing away pounds of perfectly good food on a daily basis. Everyone, from the director to the dishwashers, hated to see good food go to waste, but there was no way to get it to those in need without taking on new labor and transportation costs. So Ben created the Food Recovery Network to help. He and his team of student volunteers gave their time and transportation to help ensure unused food from the cafeteria went to local homeless shelters."

According to the FRN web site, www.foodrecoverynetwork.org, the organization has spread to many colleges and universities across the country and has donated 275,670 pounds of food since September 2011, with 20 new college chapters started since August 2013. To support this work's expenses, the site says we can donate a meal for just TEN CENTS! FRN has joined the UN's Zero Hunger Program to eradicate hunger in our lifetimes, and has donated over 190,000 meals in the United States while also working in sustainable food production programs around the world. This work also reduces food waste and even greenhouse gases, according to the site. I hope you'll read more about it, and explore food justice issues in greater depth.

Each day our news media talk about issues where we can be part of something greater than ourselves--starting with prayer and creativity. Whether it is advocacy to support living wages and equal pay for women, women's rights and literacy, better access to health care and affordable drugs, care for creation, or many other areas of work, you can bet Jesus would be there to help and inspire--and so should we.

A thought for the day From the Baltimore Presbytery web site: 'Mission can be viewed as the ambulance, addressing problems as they occur. Justice can be viewed as the fence, preventing problems before they occur.'

Two of the Overtures before the 221st General Assembly on topics relating to children:

Ovt 015 -- On Entering a Two-Year Season of Reflection on the Plight of Unwanted Children, and Appointing a Special Committee on Abortion Review. From the Presbytery of South Alabama

Ovt 016 -- On Encouraging Use of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation. From the Presbytery of New York City

Here is a very easy link to the current list of GA overtures (proposed legislation) and concurrences:

http://www.pbyofnewcovenant.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=108:general-assembly-2014-materials&catid=54:general-assembly-2014-materials&Itemid=208

You can also go to www.pc-biz.org and set up an account. For an explanation of how GA works, go to <http://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga/> and read more about it!

Have you read our Churchwide

Pw Quarterly Newsletter Lately?

Our own Ann Feder, Secretary has and reports:

"Of particular interest to me are the mission and travel opportunities on [page six](#).

At least 2 people from CPC plan to go on the PW mission trip to New York in August, and we are encouraging others (including you) to go also. The registration cost is \$222 plus transportation, a very nominal cost compared to other PW mission trips I have been on. And car-pooling could be utilized. I encourage you to give this your consideration.

Secondly, the PW Women's Reformation Tour to Switzerland and France in August-September is a trip that Velma Armijo and I took last year. We recommend it. Would like to go again.

NOTE: Winnie Wagner, Synod Treasurer, was also on the trip and is giving a workshop on it at the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic Summer Gathering at Massanetta in June."

<http://www.pcusa.org/resource/pw-quarterly-newsletter-first-quarter-2014/>

Cluster Report Snap shots

(More on WEB, Click)

Clusters A & B – Marilyn Dorn

The women of Clusters A and B, which include churches located west and south of D.C., have been busy as usual—though most of them might claim otherwise, perhaps reflecting the doldrums of this drawn-out winter. In all cases, women are “salted” throughout the activities of their churches, something we are familiar with.

At Leesburg PC, the Circles continue to meet regularly, and they report liking the Horizons Bible study very much—though they are not fans of the study’s artwork. According to Shirley Pearson, the women of Leesburg serve on the missions and witness committee, sing in the choir, and help in the church’s administrative office. Dottie Stewart of St. Andrew PC reports that the women there are also using and liking the Horizons Bible study—but in fact they like the artwork better than that included in last year’s study. This difference between the PW groups at Leesburg and St. Andrew reminds us that God’s diversity is everywhere, including in reactions to Bible study art.

Kristin Yost of Trinity PC in Herndon, which of course is hosting this year’s Spring Gathering, advises that Trinity’s PW women held their annual January Retreat, with the theme of “From Brokenness to Beauty.” They will have their annual PW Birthday Celebration/Luncheon/ Bible Study wrap up on May 18, when they will also announce the new 2014-15 PW Coordinating Team.

Bealeton PC’s Hazel Settle says the women participate in a number of missions-type project, including taking cookies and drinks to a neighboring nursing home, sending Christmas cards to women in a local prison, and taking donated items to a transition center in Warrenton that collects household goods for families who have lost their homes due to foreclosures and other disasters.

At Christ PC the annual Fall Retreat was well-attended and very inspiring, focused on diversity and inclusiveness, and plans are in the works for a Spring Retreat, as well as the PW Birthday Celebration and yearly Flea Market to benefit the local community.

Cluster C – Jan Summers, reporting

In February Darnestown Presbyterian Women welcomed Rev. Ellen Clark Clemot to our annual retreat to discuss issues of the inner origins of faith. She facilitated our discussion of the book “Fingerprints of God” by NPR journalist Barbara Bradley Hagerty, who explored her own faith and interviewed scientists, medical experts, and ordinary people about their experiences and un-

derstanding of just why we have--or may not have--faith.

As with our past retreats, we share ourselves in surprising discussions of our own faith journeys, along with food, fellowship, and knitting. Getting away for a weekend--and attending worship at another PC(USA) church near our retreat site--gives us time to recharge and insights into the lives of our sisters in faith--and a new and valuable experience each time.

Darnestown PW would be glad to share their “typical plan,” developed over about 20 years of retreats, and help get your own retreat launched. If you think your church is too small to try it, consider sharing with another PC(USA) church! You will be rewarded again and again.

Cluster D – Ruth Burgos-Sasscer

These notes are Based on based on telephone conversations I had several months ago with at least one woman from each of the churches in this cluster

Colesville, Rockville United and St. Mark do not have formal women’s groups as such, although women participate actively in the life of those churches. The church administrators at Colesville and Rockville United offered to be contact persons and they informed me that, although there are no women’s groups, they know that Individual women from their respective churches occasionally attend PW Presbytery Gatherings.

The women at Neelsville Presbyterian Church in Germantown are very active in various groups, including Bible study and special interest groups, but there is no one “moderator.”

There is no “moderator” at Northwood Presbyterian church either but there are two women’s Bible study groups and a Knitting group that meet regularly.

St. Matthew and Warner Memorial each have a woman’s group with moderators and their members attend PW Presbytery events. Inspired by SISTERS STAND AND WALK TOGETHER, the women of both churches have come together for an annual luncheon for the past two years, a tradition we hope to continue. Last fall St. Matthew and Warner Memorial also collaborated on a project that benefitted poor families in rural Thailand. Warner Memorial women had sold items handmade by Thai women at their church for several years and in 2013 they sold the items at St. Matthew instead, thus expanding their customer base.

I recently wrote a letter to each of the Cluster contacts and asked them to let me know of any recent activities the women of their church might want to share with other women in our Presbytery, so more to follow.



**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

Spring Gathering

Presbyterian Women National Capital Presbytery

Saturday, April 26, 2014

9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Trinity Herndon Presbyterian Church
651 Dranesville Rd, Herndon, VA 20170-3308

SOMETHING NEW for SPRING:
Introduction of
2014-2015 *Horizons* Bible Study
Reconciling Paul:
A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians

The Rev. Kay Huggins, Interim Associate General Presbyter of National Capital Presbytery, will lead us in an overview of the new 2014-2015 *Horizons* Bible Study, *Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians*. Usually we do the overview at the Fall Gathering so plan to be at the Spring Gathering so you can be prepared for the beginning of the new study. Remember to bring your copy of the 2014-2015 *Horizons* Bible Study book so you can take notes.

If you don't have one - copies will be available for purchase!

Highlights of the Day

- Breakfast
- Business meeting/Election of Officers
- Overview of 2014-2015 *Horizons* Bible Study
- Offering Recipient - LINK - "The name "LINK" represents Christians linked together to provide love and support to serve the community." This is one of the missions of Trinity Herndon.
- Worship Service with Communion
- See other PW friends!
- Resource Table



Registration fee is \$15.00 (\$5.00 for students). Please register by April 19, 2014
Mail this form with your check made payable to Presbyterian Women, NCP to:
Michelle Clover, 4926 Celtic Dr. #102, Alexandria, VA 22310
571-287-9955 | e-mail: mmclover2009@gmail.com

I plan to attend the Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 26, 2014

Name _____

Phone _____

Email address _____

Church _____