



Joyful Noise



News for Presbyterian Women of Western North Carolina

May 2010

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Please pass this issue of Joyful Noise to the person responsible for distributing information to the Presbyterian Women in your church.

From the Moderator

The Spring Gathering at Presbyterian Home for Children was filled with energy. The presence of the Spirit stirred among us as we worshipped and studied, shared our concerns for mission, peace and justice and each other, honored our past and looked toward tomorrow.



Over 240 women from 41 churches participated. Recognizing our ongoing commitment to the Presbyterian Home for Children, the offering given for their work was \$2,696.

Surrounded by a Great Cloud of Witnesses

We were honored to have seven of the eleven past moderators of Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Western NC sharing the day with us: Joyce Weaver, Grace Monro Roy, Elsie Combs, Martha Espy, Pat Bradley, Dottie Thornburg, Connie Schimpf. We are thankful for their years of leadership and service. They are truly part of the cloud of witnesses to God's love that surrounds and sustains us and prepares us to move forward.

Included in our thanks are the outgoing

members of the Coordinating team.

Nurturing our Faith through Bible Study

Louise Johnson's dynamic introduction to the Horizons Bible Study Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today was inviting and helpful. HOPE, PRAISE, CHRIST CENTERED, JOURNEY are the key ideas on which to focus as we engage in this study. Louise shared several useful helps for this study. If you misplaced yours or were not there we can send these to you by e-mail, please ask.

PW Connections: Horizons

Thanks to Beth Hill, Lori Greveling, and Bonnie Prichard of Newton PW for helping us understand the value of Horizons Magazine for all Presbyterian Women. Encourage your women to subscribe and have a "pass around" copy as well. You might consider a gift subscription for your pastor.

Synod and Churchwide Coordinating Teams

Margaret Anderson, our Synod representative on the Churchwide Coordinating team, shared our Gathering and installed the new Coordinating team members. As Justice and Peace Facilitator, she will be sending out e-mail newsletters to each PW to share ideas. She was pleased to see in our annual reports

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examples of our women working for justice and peace in our communities. Make sure our secretary Tina Joyner ,twjoyner@bellsouth.net, has the e-mail of the person in your PW who should receive this newsletter.

Synod Gathering

There is still time to register for the PW Synod Gathering at Massanetta Springs, VA. The Theme is from Rev. 22, "Come! Take the Water of Life Freely." This is another opportunity to nurture your faith and experience the inclusive, caring community of women that PW is. Registration forms attached. Call me for further information.

National Staff

Putting a face on our hard working national staff were Carissa Herold and Ashley Meyer who drove here from Louisville. They appreciated the opportunity to meet us, and learn of our concerns, while they helped us by bringing our new Bible Study books (saving us postage). Twenty-six churches took advantage of this early delivery.

Birthday Offering Programs

We are in the season now when many PWs celebrate the annual Birthday offering. Through the years PW have contributed significantly to national and international programs of caring. It is a joy this year to be able to endorse two possible recipients for the 2011 Offering from our Presbytery. Applications have been sent in from both of our children's homes: Grandfather Home for Children and Presbyterian Children's Home. We shall follow the process with interest, while continuing to give our support to these caring communities for children among us.

Mission Opportunities

Look again at Mimi Michael's report on her Guatemala visit in the February Joyful Noise. There are several suggestions for local church PWs to make connections. Recently retired mission coworker, Ellen Dozier, has volunteered to help local churches interested in building relationships with our partner churches. Contact her through the Presbytery

office.

Two opportunities to relate to the women of the Guatemalan church stood out for Presbytery PW. (1) One is continuing to provide Spanish language copies of the Horizons Bible study as we have since 2006. We encourage each PW to pay for at least one copy (\$8.) so you can feel connected to our Guatemalan sisters every time you engage in this Bible study. They will be delivered by mission teams in November.(2) One of the women serving as an obrera is Flor de Maria Alvarez. She was part of the group of women who visited Western NC Presbytery in 2006 and spoke at our Spring Gathering. Last fall our Coordinating team agreed to contribute \$240/year for a training program. At Mimi's suggestion in April we voted to pledge the same amount for three years. This makes long term planning possible. One of the women serving as an obrera is Flor de Maria Alvarez. She was part of the group of women who visited Western NC Presbytery in 2006 and spoke at our Spring Gathering. Local PWs looking for a specific way to relate to the Women of Guatemala might consider contributing to this work as well.

In addition we appointed Mimi Michael to represent PW on the Presbytery committee for the Guatemala Partnership.

A Final Note

As I begin my term as moderator, I am aware of the wealth of experience and years of experience that the many Presbyterian Women of our Presbytery have. I look forward to getting to know you better, to visiting your church for a Circle meeting, Coordinating Team meeting, or special celebration. Feel free to call with questions, requests for resources, suggestions, and invitations to visit.

Faith Fund



Dear Western NC Presbyterian Women:

Thank you so much for the Faith Fund Award. We will use the funds to feed and help the needy of our community. The members of our church and this committee are dedicated to this ministry. It is funded solely by our congregation, and these additional funds are a blessing.

Yours truly,
Pat Pons, Chair
Financial Assistance
Waldensian Presbyterian Church

Annually, the scholarship committee selects two individuals to receive a scholarship valued in the amount of \$1,500.00. Both individuals demonstrated deep Christian character and a willing to lead by example. We, the PW committee, are delighted to announce the two recipients in alphabetically order:

A. Samuel L. Bernhardt. He is a graduate of St. Stephens High School, Hickory, NC.

- (1) Parents: James and Anita Bernhardt.
- (2) Member of Northminister Presbyterian Church, Hickory, NC.
- (3) He has selected to attend Belmont University, Nashville, TN, with a major in Audio Engineering Technology.

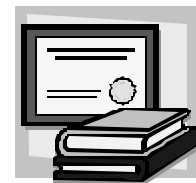
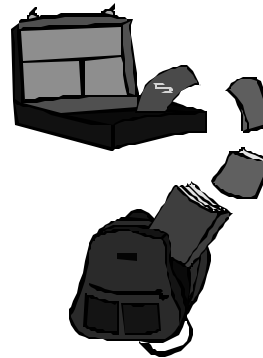
B. Patrick Van Edwards. He is a graduate of Freedom High School, Morganton, NC.

- (1) Parents: Blake and Julie Edwards.
- (2) Member of First Presbyterian Church, Morganton, NC.
- (3) He has selected to attend NC State University, Raleigh, NC, with a major in Economics.

We extend a big thank you to the other 12 applicants and hope everyone will excel at college.

Sandy Geary
PW Scholarship Chairman

Scholarship Report



Member of the 2010 PW USA Mission Experience
Patricia Clark

Mission USA



I am honored to have been selected as member of the Presbyterian Women's 2010 USA Mission Experience, "Meeting Our Sisters in South Dakota." Participants will encounter challenges to God's promise of a beloved community and witness to the faithful work being done by our Native American sisters.

The experience is September 9-16, 2010. This summer I will prepare myself through study and a physical fitness program. In addition, I am committed to two years of itineration in the synod. I look forward to visiting many of you, my dear PW sisters, in PWNC sharing this experience.

**Presbyterian Women
Presbytery of Western North Carolina
Moderator's report for 2009**

This Annual Report was compiled in conjunction with PWP Historian, Becky Lineberger, and treasurer, Pat Fiol. We thank congregation moderators, historians, and treasurers for providing information through their annual Fact Sheet, history reports, and timely submission of contributions to the treasurer.

The commitment to the PW purpose, "to work for justice and peace" by the women of Western North Carolina is evidenced by the impressive and diverse agencies and causes they supported in their communities. The support took many avenues: donation of needed items, of money, of time volunteered. Agencies supported include: crisis ministries, prison ministries, residential homes and services for children, sewing and knitting for the sick and for babies, medical services, food banks and soup kitchens. In their church families, women took care of the sick, the shut-ins, the bereaved, the ministers, and church staff.

They supported the "mission of the Church worldwide" through monetary donations to PC(USA) missionaries in Malawi, Guatemala, Indonesia, Africa and through the Samaritans Purse. They were generous in contributing to the PW Birthday and Thank Offerings, and to the Blanket Offering. These funds support programs that relieve pain, provide clean water, alleviate homelessness, provide educational opportunities, and lift up the lives of women and children throughout the world.

The contributions of women of WNC are much greater than shown in this report due to the many dollars they give directly to programs and helping agencies. Women "nurtured their faith through prayer and Bible study," most joining PW around the world in the Horizons Bible Studies on Luke and Joshua.

2009 Statistics of the PW of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina

Number of churches reporting.....	65
Number of active PW.....	2150
Number of circles.....	147
Honorary Life Memberships awarded.....	22
Spring Gathering attendance.....	155.....number churches represented.....36
Fall Gatherings attendance.....	235.....number churches represented.....41
Synod Summer Gathering.....	18
Churchwide Gathering.....	14
Number scholarships.....	3 (1 new, 2 renewals)
Birthday Offering.....	\$15,737.82
Thank Offering.....	\$13,134.26
Blanket Offering.....	\$4,536.00
Least Coin Offering.....	\$1,837.82
Missions & Missionaries.....	\$4,550.00
Mission Pledge..... Worldwide.....	\$1,566.34
Churchwide.....	\$3,853.58
Synod.....	\$2,398.11
Presbytery.....	\$4,321.83
Total contributed through PWP.....	\$51,926.65

Keeping In Touch

Connecting is Important

It is time when many PWs are electing new members of the Coordinating Team. We shall be putting together a new directory. As soon as you know of changes from the 2009-2010 directory for your PW, please send them to Tina Joyner, 5 Melbourne Place, Asheville, NC 28801

828-251-1607 or twjoyner@bellsouth.net

Including e-mail addresses saves us postage, phone bills, and time.

Your New Coordinating Team

Moderator: Suzanne Barrett 2010- 2013,
Brevard-Davidson River PC
828-884-7504 suebar@citcom.net

Vice Moderator: Ellie Mercer 2010-2012,
Brevard-Davidson River PC
28-885-7276, elliem@citcom.net

Secretary:Tina Joyner 2010-2012,
Calvary PC
828-251-1607 twjoyner@bellsouth.net

Treasurer:Pat Fiol 2010-2012 (2nd term), Tryon PC
828-859-6728 paf3@windstream.net

Historian: Becky Lineberger 2009-2011,
Mount Holly PC
704-827-2607 beckyl@carolina.rr.com

Just& Peace Facilitator: Josephine Hambrick 2009-2011,
First PC Hickory
828-327-5751

Creative Ministries Facilitator: Gail Findlay 2010-2012,
Bryson City PC
828-736-6897 gailfindlay@yahoo.com

Scholarship Facilitator: Sandy Geary 2010-2012 (2nd
term), First PC Franklin
828-421-6559 sanjim78@verizon.net

Missions Facilitator: Betty Yoder 2010-2012, First PC
Hendersonville wyoder@morrisbb.net

Spiritual Nurture Facilitator: Dottie Thornburg 2009-
2011 First PC Sylva
828-586-1166 l.thornburg@verizon.net

Newsletter Editor: Jane Lee Vondette (no term limit),
Grace Covenant PC
350-9626 jlvo@aol.com

Search Moderator: Lois Groth 2008-2011 (1.5 terms),
Bryson City PC
828-488-3427 westridge3@verizon.net

Cluster Leader Coordinator: Ginny Gernoske 2010-
2013,Trinity PCHendersonville
828-697-5308 mtngin@bellsouth.net

Cluster I Carolyn (Cardy) White 2011
First PC Franklin
828-369-5129 cardy@dnet.net

Cluster III Joyce Bluhm 2012
First PC Asheville
828-681-5442

Cluster V Trish Turnbull 2011
Marion PC
828-652-5673

Cluster VII Hallie Connor 2011
704-739-5040

Cluster VIII Phyllis Piper 2011
704-827-9704

Cluster X Sylvia McBane 2011
First PC Morganton
828-433-4611 sandgmcbane@hci.net

Cluster XI Marchita Blackburn 2011
Burnsville PC
828-675-5105 ketaluv@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

Dates & Deadlines

June 10-13	Synod Summer Gathering at Massanetta Springs
July 3—10	General Assembly
July 27	85th Stated Meeting of Presbytery at Cherryville, First
August 21	Let's Celebrate at Morganton, First
Sept 18	Fall Gathering, First Presbyterian Church, Highlands
Sept 25	Fall Gathering, Presbyterian Church of Lowell, Lowell, NC
April 23, 2011	Spring Gathering, Trinity Presbyterian, Hendersonville



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