



Joyful Noise

News for Presbyterian Women of Western North Carolina

August 2013

Moderator Information

Barbara McLean
2 Woodbury
Lane
Asheville, NC
28804
828-254-1034

barbaram_2
@charter.net

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

From the Moderator

Greetings -

I'd like to share with you some of the experiences recently enjoyed by 23 women from around our country – one from each of our 16 synods except for Puerto Rico, and our Churchwide Moderator and Vice Moderator for Mission; staff from Louisville; and hosts Lucretia Meece from East Tennessee and myself from Western North Carolina. This group made up the USA Mission Experience for 2013.

The women arrived on Tuesday, June 18 in the middle of very bad weather. It was amazing how quickly these women bonded. By devotional time that first evening we were already a group of Presbyterian Women sharing a purpose and caring about each other. We began our time together at Warren Wilson College for the first 2 nights, moved to Tusculum College in Greeneville, TN for 3 nights, and then returned to Asheville for the final 3 nights.

The purpose of the Mission

Experience is to equip women to understand the history and culture of a region, the existing ministry of the church there and the challenges faced by women, children, and families living in the area. Participants are to serve as ambassadors for the region during two years of itineration following the experience.



Moderator:
Barbara McLean

The participants:

Met with local historians and Appalachian women to better understand the unique history and culture of the area; toured and had fellowship with local organizations serving women, children and families; and saw the evolution of the PC (USA) mission and ministry programs in rural Appalachia.

One of our first tasks was to teach the participants how to say “App-a-latch-a” rather than “App- a-lay-cha”. I had no idea this would be an issue!

One of our workshops for the fall gatherings will be presented by Corita Floyd of Charlotte. Corita was the representative from the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic to the USAME. I don't

(Continued on page 2)

From the Moderator (cont.)

want to steal her stories or her presentation, but I will say that this experience was very meaningful to me and to everyone involved. We looked at our history of the Presbyterian Church in Appalachia and how Presbyterians got here in the first place. “Just Economics” showed us how people living in poverty have to deal with so much more in their daily lives than not having an abundance of material possessions.

We spent a delightful evening at the Black Mountain Home for Children. In Cherokee, we heard about the history there and how the Presbyterian Church played a part in that history. In Asheville, we learned about how trafficking is being dealt with and how children’s health issues including child abuse are handled.

We visited the Swannanoa Correctional Facility where we have a Presbyterian Chaplain, the Rev. Lynn Michie. The Appalachian Culture Center in Tennessee and their archives taught us a lot about our heritage and the role of religion in this area. We spent time in very small rural mountain churches to see what they do to help those in need – and we worshiped at Montreat with more than 900 others during the Worship and Music Conference.

My deepest gratitude goes to the others on the planning team for this event from this Presbytery: Dot Descieux (vice moderator), Sue Barrett (immediate past moderator), Dr. Olson Huff (Presbyterian elder and healthcare provider), and Allison Jordon (CEO of Children First in Asheville). Together with the Tennessee team, we created a strong and lasting impression on the participants. I look forward to sharing more information with you – and I hope that you will

attend one of the fall gathering workshops and see for yourself what caught the imagination of the participants.

We are in the midst of planning your fall gatherings for 2013 – Mary Lou Nash is the Vice Moderator in charge of these programs. The Western Region Gathering is September 21 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Asheville. The Eastern Region will be hosted by Sherrill’s Ford Presbyterian Church near Terrell. Please look elsewhere in this issue of Joyful Noise to read more about those plans. We are hoping to see many of you there at one of these events!

Another important event on the horizon for us is a mini-retreat to Guatemala which will involve four women from our Presbytery interacting with four women from each of our partner Presbyteries in Guatemala. Mimi Michael has written about this elsewhere in this issue of Joyful Noise. Please read about this project, offer your prayers, and consider contributing financially to this project. We have no funds in our budget to cover this, but your Coordinating Team feels that this is a priority for us and a wonderful mission outreach.

Look for dates to remember and mark your calendars now for times when we can come together as Presbyterian Women to learn and to worship.

Blessings to each of you.

Barbara McLean

Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Western North Carolina

Synod Gathering 2013

The Presbyterian Women held their 25th Synod Summer Gathering on June 13 – 16 at Massanetta Springs, Virginia. The weather was cool as we arrived, but by the end of the gathering, it was ‘Massanetta warm’.

There were 208 women in attendance, with 9 from our Presbytery: Patricia Clark, Cathy Clevenger, Chris Gantt, Tina Joyner, Becky Lineberger, Nanette Marranca, Barbara McLean, Connie Schimpf and Mae Weed. Patricia, who is on the Synod Nominating Committee, conducted a workshop on “That Coffee is Really About JUSTICE”, Cathy was on the Summer Gathering Team as Assistant Arrangements, Chris brought our basket for the silent auction, Tina conducted a workshop on “Communications 101”, Becky was installed as Synod Historian, Nanette was a first-time attendee, Barbara was in the procession with our Presbytery banner and she also lit the Christ candle and had a prayer, Connie, chair of the Synod Scholarship Committee, gave the scholarship report, and Mae had a display for Grandfather Home.

The morning and evening plenaries were begun with singing--some old, familiar songs and several new ones. We were even given a Sampler of the new hymnal to take home. Fred Holbrook played the bagpipes for our first plenary when the officers processed down the aisle. We also woke up every morning to his playing. We had special musicians, Virginia Bethune who played the harp, and Dr. Edward Gant, Jr., who played the cello.

We had many workshops to choose from, and the Reverend Janice Catron, author of the 2013-2014 Bible Study Book, *An Abiding Hope: The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy*, conducted workshops, as well, as speaking at the plenaries.

Friday night after the plenary was spent working on three mission projects: school back packs, children’s comfort kits, and cancer pillows. After we finished, we were treated to an ice cream social to celebrate the 25th anniversary of PW.

Saturday evening the dining room was transformed into a beautiful birthday room for our dinner...beautiful blue tablecloths and yellow napkins. We ended the night by finishing our birthday celebration with a beautifully decorated birthday cake.

Presbyterian Women are very generous and we collected offerings for various projects. \$2,095 was collected from the Silent Auction.

Fred spoke about the Massaneta Springs Living Waters Campaign and Pam Snyder spoke on the water project in the Sudan. Our offering that was split between those two projects was \$2,600. The backdrop and figures were sold for a total of \$404. The sale of necklaces made by PW in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic for the Global Exchange to India netted \$405.

Join in the fun June 5 – 8, 2014, at Massanetta Springs for the next Synod Summer Gathering.

If you are receiving the Joyful Noise by snail mail, but you have an email, we would really appreciate it if you would contact us and provide us with your email. The costs of mailing the Joyful Noise is on the rise and you can help us by letting us send it to you electronically. You can email your address to pwjoyfulnoise@aol.com. Please give your name, church, and email address. Thank you.

PW Fall Gatherings... They Shall Come from the East and the West!

It's that time of year again when the women of Western North Carolina Presbytery gather in the East and in the West to fellowship and learn from leaders with specialized knowledge and from one another. The annual Fall Gatherings for the Presbyterian Women are being planned in two venues that will give many folk an opportunity to renew acquaintances, to meet new friends and to have an opportunity to learn new things all in the space of just a few hours. All this as they enjoy the hospitality of the host churches of Sherrills Ford in the East and Westminster Church in Asheville which is being joined in hosting by the women of Calvary, and New Hope in the West.

The theme of the days, **September 21** in the **West** and **October 5** in the **East** is taken from the Horizons Bible Study "*An Abiding Hope*". There will be four workshops offered at each site and each will help the participants to know that through what they learn and experience, they can live with "An Abiding Hope."

At each venue there will be an *Overview of the Horizons Bible Study* for the 2013-14 year, focused on "The Presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy". In the West, at Westminster, the workshop will be led by The Rev. Susan Denne, who was the stated supply pastor of the Montreat Presbyterian Church and has previously served large and small churches in FL, AK and SC. In the East, at Sherrills Ford, the workshop will be led by PC(USA) Certified Christian Educator

Betty Davenport from FPC in Gastonia who was also a former public school educator and is active with the PW at her church.

Other workshops presented at both sites include:

Mission of the Church Worldwide – by Corita Lloyd a participant in the recent USAMission Experience of PW. Corita comes to be with us from Charlotte NC.

Adaptive Leadership and Communication – by Barbara McLean, Moderator and Tina Joyner, Secretary, two members of our Presbytery PW Coordinating Team who bring experience and skills in these areas to support and inform local PW church leaders.

Hope for Peace and Justice – by Patricia Clark former PW moderator and moderator of the Presbytery of WNC who is involved with Fair Trade ministries and social justice issues.

Plan to attend one of these events either at Westminster in Asheville on September 21 or at Sherrills Ford on October 5. It will be a morning well spent with women of churches in the Presbytery of Western North Carolina. It is an opportunity to broaden horizons, a time to grow in faith, to share fellowship, and to remember that we strengthen the church as we witness to the promise of God's kingdom.

Registration Forms on next two pages!

WNC PW FALL GATHERING
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2013
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ASHEVILLE
(Directions on reverse)

THEME: AN ABIDING HOPE

Registration: 8:45 - 9:45 Gathering In 9:45 – 10:00 Plenary 10:00 – 10:30
Workshops 10:40 -11:25 and 11:35 – 12:20 Lunch 12:30

OFFERING OBJECTIVE: WOMEN AT RISK with HOMEWARD BOUND
(Make check payable to PW PWNC)

LUNCH: \$10.00 Reservation/Payment Deadline September 14
(Make check payable to PW PWNC)

Please mail completed form along with payment of \$10 for lunch reservation to:

Mary Lou Nash POB 19809 Asheville 28815 (Questions? 828-808-8584 or mfn@att.net)

Detach below and mail to above address

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WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Choose two (2) workshops:

_____ **An Abiding Hope – Overview of Horizons Bible Study – Rev Susan Denne, formerly Stated Supply at Montreat Presbyterian Church**

_____ **Adaptive Leadership and Communication – Barbara McLean and Tina Joyner, PPW Coordinating Team moderator and Secretary of PPW.**

_____ **USA Mission Experience 2013 “Unto These Hills” – Corita Floyd – member of PW USA Mission Experience, elder, Clanton Church, Charlotte, NC, PW Circle Moderator, Delegate to CW Gathering.**

_____ **That Coffee is Really about JUSTICE! – Patricia Clark – former PW moderator and moderator of WNC Presbytery.**

NAME _____ **CHURCH** _____

E-MAIL _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____

LUNCH: _____ **YES** _____ **NO** **CHILD CARE** _____

DIRECTIONS TO WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN ASHEVILLE AT 15 OVERBROOK PLACE

FROM THE EAST or WEST take I-40 to Asheville Exit 53-B onto I-240 W and follow signs toward Asheville. Go 0.4 miles and take Exit 7 toward US 70E/Tunnel Road. At ramp traffic light, turn right and go down the ramp onto Tunnel Road. Go 0.6 miles and turn right onto Overbrook Road. Church will be on the right.

FROM THE NORTH on 19/23 follow signs onto I-240 East in Asheville. Go 3.2 miles on I-240 to Exit 7. Follow signs for US 70E/Tunnel Road, turning left onto Tunnel Road. Go 0.6 miles and turn right onto Overbrook Road. Church will be on the right.

Church phone number is 828-298-4745



WNC PW FALL GATHERING
SATURDAY, October 5, 2013
SHERRILLS FORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(Directions on reverse)

THEME: AN ABIDING HOPE

Registration: 8:45 - 9:45 Gathering In 9:45 – 10:00 Plenary 10:00 – 10:30
Workshops 10:40 -11:25 and 11:35 – 12:20 Lunch 12:30

OFFERING OBJECTIVE: Support The Guatemalan Women's Spiritual Mini Retreat
(Make check payable to PW PWNC)

LUNCH: \$10.00 Reservation/Payment Deadline September 28
(Make check payable to PW PWNC)

Please mail completed form along with payment of \$10 for lunch reservation to:

Mary Lou Nash POB 19809 Asheville 28815 (Questions? 828-808-8584 or mlfn@att.net)

Detach below and mail to above address

SHERRILLS FORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Choose two (2) workshops:

- _____ **An Abiding Hope – Overview of Horizons Bible Study –Betty Davenport, Certified Church Educator, Gastonia FPC**
- _____ **Adaptive Leadership and Communication – Barbara McLean and Tina Joyner, PPW Coordinating Team moderator and Secretary of PPW.**
- _____ **USA Mission Experience 2013 “Unto These Hills” – Corita Floyd – member of PW USA Mission Experience, elder, Clanton Church, Charlotte, NC, PW Circle Moderator, Delegate to CW Gathering.**
- _____ **That Coffee is Really about JUSTICE! – Patricia Clark – former PW moderator and moderator of WNC Presbytery.**

NAME _____ CHURCH _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

LUNCH: _____ YES _____ NO NEED CHILD CARE? _____

DIRECTIONS TO SHERRILLS FORD

Directions to Sherrills Ford Presbyterian Church from Asheville and the northern part of the PWNC:

Travel East on I-40 to Exit 132. Turn right onto Hwy 16 South at Newton-Conover - Taylorsville sign. Continue for 5.1 miles and make left turn on Hwy.16 S at Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet Dealership. Continue on Hwy 16 S to the Lincolnton-Mooresville exit (about 10 miles). Turn left on Hwy 150 East toward Mooresville at stoplight. Continue through another light and go East about 6.4 miles. You will pass through 2 stoplights and the 3rd stoplight will be Sherrill's Ford Road in Terrell , NC . Turn left on Sherrills Ford Rd. and go north 1.6 miles. The church is on the left.

For those coming from Gastonia , Kings Mountain , Shelby and Cherryville areas, go to Hwy 150 E. Stay on Hwy 150 E, continuing East until you reach Terrell , NC . At the stoplight in Terrell turn left on Sherrills Ford Road . Go North on Sherrills Ford Road 1.6 miles and the church is on the left.

To Synod or not to Synod, that is the question!
(Take off on "to be or not to be, that is the question".)
submitted by: Nanette Petiprin-Marranca

A synod? What is that? If you are a young Presbyterian woman, or have recently joined the denomination, or are even a life long Presbyterian, it may be a mystery to you.

It is O.K. not to know. My chosen attitude was quite comforting to me! Just days before leaving Morganton, North Carolina for the Synod of the Mid Atlantic, I was given a well "stocked" moderator's box plus a brand new notebook to continue an extraordinary tradition of the Presbyterian Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Morganton founded in 1797!

Besides knowledge, you need people. You need to network in order to be sensitive to the Lord's calling. My mentor became Patricia Clark. She urged me to attend this Synod of the Mid Atlantic with her and a talented, insightful woman of the PWNC, Tina Joyner.

First, the preregistration plan allowed me to view all of the workshops offered and contemplate which ones were most important for me as a new moderator. I had time to evaluate my selections with Patricia. In addition, prepaying for the gathering and selecting which meal plan suited me best were helpful.

Off we went---Patricia, Tina and myself---to Mansanetta Springs in Virginia. Upon arrival, I picked up my packet at registration and was "good to go" from June 16th through 19th.

I was ready to paint my canvas of the PW with a broad brush. I wanted to understand the

"big picture", then, I could fill in the details with a finer brush. Workshops were the answer! For my role as a new moderator, I chose:

PW Leadership at the Congregational Level
Everything You Need to Know
Celebration Giving-Taking it to the
Congregations

Scrapbooking

The fourth and last workshop was meant to be pure fun. It was! The other three sessions were correctly focused on the preparation for the new congregational moderator.

Indeed, I was the willing participant ready to learn and to be fed spiritually. Rev Catron the actual author of the 2013-2014 bible study, "Abiding Hope: God's Presence in Exodus and Deuteronomy" presented the format and essence of its message. Among the slopping hills, gardens and trees was our gathering place for worship, song, humor and fellowship as well. During the four days, six occasions brought women together from Delaware, Washington, D. C., Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina. Not just any women but Presbyterian Women of the PCUSA who celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary.

The Synod of the Mid Atlantic gave me confidence and the divine inspiration to help fuel the PW of First Presbyterian, Morganton during the 2013-2014 year both in mission and bible study, "Abiding Hope.....". "My cup runneth over."

Peace and Justice from Margaret Kennerly

Our Presbyterian Women can celebrate with the Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women! Thanks to extra efforts by women in this Presbytery the SCCW has received a Thank Offering Grant from Louisville for \$16,000 to be placed in the Virginia Buchanan Educational Fund and administered by the Community Resource Council. These funds will be used to help women in the facility attend ABTech on the study release program.

Some of us were blessed to hear one of the women talk about her experiences at ABTech. She expressed appreciation to all of us (this was during the visit of Presbyterian Women from

across our General Assembly this summer)

If you are interested in volunteering with the women in this facility please call Chaplain Lynn Michie at 828-259-6055.

The Food Week of Action is to be observed October 13-20 with World Food Day being October 13th. The theme this year is Seeds for Life. This is a time to advocate for policies and practices locally nationally and internationally. It would be a good time to emphasize your Nickel a Meal Offerings.

More information can be found at www.e-alliance.ch/en/s/food/food-week-of-action.

Pisgah Legal Services of Asheville Receives Thank Offering

Pisgah Legal Services, located in Asheville received \$30,000 from the Thank Offering. Pisgah Legal services is a non-profit law firm that has been in practice for 35 years bringing service to the most needy.

Their mission is to pursue justice by providing legal assistance and advocacy to help low income people in Western North Carolina meet their basic needs in life.

They provide free civil legal aid to the very low-income people, helps more that 13,000 of the most vulnerable people in the community annually meet urgent needs—housing, safety from abuse, health care and income.

Pisgah Legal Services partners with dozens of other agencies to make sustainable change for people in crisis. It also coordinates pro bono

work for more that 300 local attorneys. It works to improve systems and policies that impacts thousands of low-income people.

There are 18 attorneys on staff and a volunteer staff of more that 300. They serve the counties of Madison, Buncombe, Henderson, Transylvania, Polk and Rutherford. They provide limited services to seventeen other counties in Western North Carolina.

One of their programs is the Children's Law Project which helps disadvantaged children avoid homelessness and help them access medical treatment, pubic education and escape situations of abuse.

More information on PLS can be found at www.pisgahlegal.org.

Women's Retreat to Take Place in Guatemala this Fall

In our ongoing efforts to forge stronger relationships with the women of Guatemala, we are excited for the opportunity to hold a women's retreat in Guatemala this fall. Four women from the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, along with four women from each of our partner presbyteries in Guatemala, Suchitepequez and Sur Occidente, will gather for some extended time together. We are very pleased that the following women from the Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team will represent the PWNC:

Patricia Clark, member of FPC Morganton and former moderator of PW for PWNC; Margarette Kennerly, member of Etowah PC and Justice and Peace Facilitator; Mimi Michael, member of FPC Newton and PW rep to the Guatemala Partnership Committee; Sue Unnasch, member of Long Creek PC and Mission Facilitator.

The women from PWNC will travel to Guatemala Oct. 29th-Nov. 6th. The actual retreat will take place Wednesday, October 30th through Friday, November 1st, and will be held at the seminary in San Filipe. Leadership will be shared among the presbyteries and will include time for Bible study, sharing, singing, prayer, activities and games.

We wish all women could participate, but actually all can! Your help is needed and welcomed in the following ways:

1. **Pray** – This is first because it is the most important. “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” - James 5:16. Please remember these women and the planned retreat as part of your personal and PW group prayers. Pray that all would be sensitive to the stirrings of the Spirit, would grow in love and understanding, and be part of building God's kingdom on earth.
2. **Provide** Financial Support – All costs associated with this retreat must be raised. In addition to the contributions given by these individuals and their churches, we ask each PW group to consider a special gift to enable this retreat to be a reality. Checks should note “Guatemala Retreat” on the memo line and be sent to Becky Lineberger, PW WNC Treasurer, 1738 Charles Raper Jonas Hwy, Mt Holly, NC 28120.
3. **Plan** to invite these women to share their experiences with your PW group after their return. They will welcome the opportunity to help us all grow in our love and understanding of the women of Guatemala.

Let's Celebrate...

Go Ahead... Jesus Is There

Education Event for Adults and Youth

August 17, 2013

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church, Morganton

Deadline to register is August 7, 2013

Dates To Remember

August 17	Let's Celebrate—First Presbyterian Church Morganton
Fall Gatherings:	
September 21	Western Gathering: at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Asheville
October 5	Eastern Gathering: at Sherrill's Ford Presbyterian Church
October 25, 26	Presbytery Meeting—Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
October 29— November 6	Mini Retreat in Guatamala
November 1	Mission Pledge Form Due
April 5, 2014	Spring Gathering, 2014: in Cherryville, NC

*News for Presbyterian Women
of Western North Carolina
Editor: Jane Lee Vondette
PO Box 18932
Asheville, NC 28814*

