

JOYFUL NOISE

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

August 2014

Report from the Moderator



“You are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by all.” 2 Corinthians 3:2.

This is the verse the 2014 Planning Team for PW’s Synod Summer Gathering chose for their theme. It comes directly from our 2014-2015 Bible Study, **Reconciling Paul**, written by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty.

This verse is also the theme verse for our Fall Gatherings for 2014. Please see Mary Lou Nash’s article detailing the plans for the gatherings and announcing the leadership elsewhere in this newsletter. Registration forms are available now. We look forward to seeing many of you on September 6 in Morganton or September 13 in Canton.

We are grateful to Cathy Clevenger of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville for representing our Presbytery on the Summer Gathering Planning Team. Cathy was in charge of Arrangements, and masterfully interpreted the theme verse above

with her visual response to this verse on the plenary stage. Cathy is a gifted and creative person, and we are greatly indebted to her for sharing her gifts in this very special way.

Next summer, Tina Joyner of Calvary Presbyterian Church in Asheville will join the 2015 Planning Team for the summer conference as Assistant Registrar. She becomes Registrar for the 2016 Gathering. Please consider joining us for the conference in 2015. See articles from two participants from this year’s conference further in this newsletter.

One of the themes of this year’s Bible Study has to do with “economy of grace.” According to our author, in 2 Corinthians Paul uses “theological language when talking about money and economic language when talking about Christ’s generosity”. We are challenged to think about Paul’s understanding of fair balance and an economy of grace in the context of the ancient world and then think about this concept in light of the economic margins in our contemporary world.

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Moderator Information

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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.





Report from the Moderator (cont)

(Continued from page 1)

Your Coordinating Team with the inspiration of Mimi Michael, our Guatemala Partnership liaison, has endorsed an idea that would help to improve very difficult economic situations among our PW sisters in Guatemala. Please read on and consider enthusiastically supporting these projects in your local churches.

I am so thankful that our Presbytery has a PW that is active and alive – and that seriously considers what it means to be a Christian in 2014 and puts in place concrete actions because of your beliefs.

Guatemala Partnership

Meaningful Ways to Support and Empower the Women of Guatemala

Microloans: At the November 2013 women's retreat in Guatemala, the idea of developing a micro-loan project with the Guatemalan women was discussed. Given the difficult economic situations most Guatemalans face, microloans could help women establish small businesses to supplement income or could provide funds for their Presbyterian Women activities. A task force has been meeting here to learn and discuss plans and policies, while at the same time the women's groups from each presbytery in Guatemala are developing their proposals. We hope to hold a workshop in Guatemala in November to finalize details. **We have a perfect opportunity to raise funds for this project since 2014 marks the 20th anniversary of our partnership. We encourage individuals and women's groups across our presbytery to consider giving \$20 in honor of these 20 years we have been partners.** This is not just another giving opportunity, but a chance to empower women and change lives. Checks, made payable to PWPWNC and designated for the Guatemala Microloan Fund, should be sent to Becky Lineberger, PW Treasurer, 1738 Charles Raper Jonas Hwy, Mt Holly, NC

28120. Thank you for supporting this endeavor!

Card shower: The theme for the women's retreat in Guatemala last fall was taken from Luke 1:49, "For the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name." To follow up on this time together, we are planning a card shower for the Guatemalan women. **Women are asked to take a card and fill it out completing the sentence "One mighty thing God has done for me is..."** You can share a few lines about something that has happened in your family, work, church, or community where you have seen God at work. Please return cards at the Fall Gatherings or by September 30th so they can be translated and delivered by the presbytery team traveling to Guatemala in early November. On that trip the Guatemalan women will also be given blank cards that they can fill out and return to us. In this way we hope to make personal connections among women, strengthen relationships, and encourage one another in faith. All women, young and old, are encouraged to take a card and participate. Please contact Mimi Michael at mimimichael17@gmail.com or at 828-465-0335 to obtain cards for you or your PW group. A sample newsletter/bulletin article and instructions to display in a frame are available.

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SCHOLARSHIP LETTER

After sending my transcripts, I thought you would like to know what I have been doing and done in the past year, especially since you and the ladies of the Presbyterian Women are so important to me and my college career!

So in my past sophomore year of college I have tried to get more involved and extend myself to the Appalachian Community. I spent the entire sophomore year in a residential learning community that was specific to service in Boone and Appalachian. We did various projects throughout the year that helped local families and students in the Appalachian area.

After realizing that I like to volunteer and extend my hand out to the community, I began getting involved with another local organization. It is called, Farm Cafe. It is a food shelter and restaurant that serves locally grown and homemade food. The purpose of the Restaurant was to give people a warm meal, in exchange they could donate 5-8 dollars or work for three hours. It is a great organization for locals and students who need a meal. I began volunteering every Friday after I would get out of class by cleaning, washing dishes and doing whatever else they needed me to do.

Since my major is Sustainable Development with a concentration in Business I tried finding something that would benefit me on that level. I happened to fall in the hands of the perfect club. Although I am not a Business major the principle behind this club was exactly what I was looking for. The club was, the Entrepreneurship club in the Business Department. Within that club, in the past four years the students in that club had been working on a project that its main focus was creating a store where only local products by Appalachian Students could be sold. The store's name is Bootstraps. I immediately got involved. I work in the store an average of three hours a week. Although I, myself have no products in the store, I am hoping to add some crochet scarves next year. This year though, I would help customers, clean, and help with the advertising process. It is incredible how far we have come since August, when I first started

to get involved. We have grown so much! We even have gotten sponsored by a woman in the community who found our store to be a real gem. She has helped us by donating \$5000 to the store for advertising, store fixtures and other various supplies that we might need.

Another high accomplishment of mine this year is that I was one of one-hundred and fifty students to apply to be a Residential Assistant for this upcoming school year. I was also one of the seventy to be picked and hired for the position. I am excited to see what the upcoming year has in store. I love the housing department at Appalachian, I have been an active member since freshman year by being apart of Hall Council both years, and being the Vice President this year for my resident Hall. Now I will be able to be even more of a leader and role model for my upcoming residents in the 2014-2015 school year.

Toward the end of the school year I was inducted in a honor/service society, Gamma Beta Phi and received a certificate for leadership at Appalachian. I was also for the fourth semester straight been on Dean's List.

This year I was able to achieve one of my dreams and I was able to travel and study abroad for part of the summer. I am a Spanish Major also and I had the opportunity to go and live in Madrid for five weeks to study Spanish. It was quite difficult but I made it out alive! I took two classes that were completely in Spanish. I successfully pulled out with two B+, which I am highly grateful for!

I know this is a lot of information! I just thought you might would like to know how I was doing and what I was involved in!

Thank you for all you do,

Tamela Queen



PW FALL GATHERINGS – CALL TO APOSTLESHIP

Once again the women of the PW of WNC have two opportunities to meet together for learning and fellowship in the fall, this year at the *Morganton* and *Canton* churches as the women of those congregations host our gatherings. Our overarching theme, taken from the Horizons 2014-15 Bible Study, will be **The Economy of Grace**, as we explore our own response to God's call in our lives through various workshops presented by our gifted leaders each day.

Our biblical verse of focus for the gatherings is 2 Corinthians 3:2 "*You are our Letter, written on our hearts, known and read by all.*"

Dates for our events are: **September 6** at First Presbyterian, Morganton and **September 13** at Canton Presbyterian. Check your calendar and sign up for either event, workshops are the same at each!

Meet the leaders and discover the workshops you would like to take...you may sign up for 2 workshops!

THE LETTER: An introduction to the Bible Study "Reconciling Paul – A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians" *The Rev Rebecca F. Harrison*. Rebecca is retired from pastoral ministry in the PCUSA, having celebrated 30 years of ordination this year. She is a graduate of McCormick Seminary and served congregations in IA, MN, CA, LA,

and NV. In all of these calls she has been involved with Presbyterian Women. She has been on the Planning Team for Churchwide Gathering in 2009 and has written installation services for Horizons. In the past she has also presented the Bible Study for her synod gatherings in CA. Rebecca and her husband Nigel now live in Asheville, spending time with their 1 ½ year old grandson as well as 3 cats and where Rebecca is an active participant at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS: A discussion around some inspirational thoughts on the power of writing to assist a spiritual life as well as time to "free write" and an optional time to share "free writing" done with the group. Participation is encouraged, but not required. *Margaret Belk Tierney*. Margaret is a teaching specialist with the Buncombe County Schools in gifted education, holding a MA degrees in English and Education. She has always used words to nurture her spirituality, and thinks of them as breathable, sharable parts of her life. She has experience as a reporter, a freelance writer and recently participated in a master's class in the Great Smokey Mountain Writing Program through UNC-A. She finds writing helps her find humor inside of conflict or the beauty traveling through sorrow.

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WNC PW FALL GATHERING - EAST
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2014
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MORGANTON
(Directions on reverse)

THEME: CALL TO APOSTLESHIP

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: GUATEMALA MICRO LOAN PROJECT
(Make check payable to PW PWNC)

LUNCH: \$10.00 Reservation/Payment Deadline September 2
(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 mlfn@att.net)

Detach below and mail to above address

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MORGANTON

Choose two (2) workshops:

THE LETTER – Overview of Horizons Bible Study – Rev Rebecca Harrison, retired PCUSA pastor

WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS– Margaret Belk Tierney – Educator and writer. Writing about matters of faith and our spiritual lives

KNOWN AND READ BY ALL(LEADERSHIP) Suzanne Barrett – former PW moderator. Discovering the ways we learn to lead faithfully in a variety of situations in PW.

ECONOMY OF GRACE – Mimi Michael and Micro Loan Task Force. Discovering how to be a part of helping the women of Guatemala gain economic security.

NAME _____ CHURCH _____

E-MAIL _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

LUNCH: _____ YES _____ NO CHILD CARE _____

Directions to First Presbyterian Church - 100 Silver Creek Road Morganton, NC 28655

From points west of Morganton:

Take I-40 east to exit 103. At the stop light at the end of the exit ramp turn left onto US-64E/Burkemont Avenue. Travel approximately 1.5 miles to West Union Street/US-70 Business West and turn left. Go approximately 0.4 miles to Silver Creek Road and turn right. The church will be on your right.

From points east of Morganton:

Take I-40 west to exit 103. At the stop light at the end of the exit ramp turn right onto US-64E/Burkemont Avenue. Travel approximately 1.5 miles to West Union Street/US-70 Business West and turn left. Go approximately 0.4 miles to Silver Creek Road and turn right. The church will be on your right.

**WNC PW FALL GATHERING - WEST
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2014**

CANTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

(Directions on reverse)

THEME: CALL TO APOSTLESHIP

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: THE BACK PACK PROJECT
(Make check payable to PW PWNC)

LUNCH: \$10.00 Reservation/Payment Deadline September 9
(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 mlfn@att.net)

Detach below and mail to above address

CANTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Choose two (2) workshops:

- THE LETTER – Overview of Horizons Bible Study – Rev Rebecca Harrison, retired PCUSA pastor**
- WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS– Margaret Belk Tierney – Educator and writer. Writing about matters of faith and our spiritual lives**
- KNOWN AND READ BY ALL (LEADERSHIP) Jayne Sneed, Presbytery of the James, CCT Synod of Mid-Atlantic, Discovering the ways we learn to lead faithfully in a variety of situations.**
- ECONOMY OF GRACE – Mimi Michael and Micro Loan Task Force. Exploring how to be a part of helping the women of Guatemala gain economic security.**

NAME _____ **CHURCH** _____

E-MAIL _____ **PHONE** _____

ADDRESS _____

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

Approaching from both East and West)

- Travel I-40 to Canton, Exit 31.
- On the exit ramp, follow signs to Downtown Canton.
- Go South on Champion Drive to 3rd traffic light, approximately 1.7 miles. You will pass fast food restaurants, Ingles, and the Paper Mill.
- At the 3rd traffic light, turn Right onto Main Street. (The street sign will say School Street on the Left.)
- Immediately after turning onto Main Street, Canton Presbyterian is on the hill to the Left.
- Parking is behind the church. You can reach the parking lot either by turning Left into the driveway off Main Street, immediately past the church sign, or by turning Left at the next traffic light onto Newfound Street, and then Left again into the parking lot.



PW FALL GATHERINGS – CALL TO APOSTLESHIP (cont.)

KNOWN AND READ BY ALL (LEADERSHIP):

We all share challenges as we lead our groups and we can learn from one another as we use both our hearts and our minds to resolve the issues we face. In this workshop the leaders will help participants to look at adaptive solutions to situations in our midst. Morganton Leader: Suzanne Barrett. Sue has been an active member of Presbyterian Women at the congregational level for 55 years. In recent years she has been Mission Facilitator and Moderator of PW of our Presbytery. Engaging in bible study that leads to ministry and ministry in our community and world is her major concern. She taught Social Studies in middle and high school and now is enjoying life with her husband Ed, two daughters and four grandchildren. Canton Leader: Jayne Sneed. Jayne comes to us from the Presbytery of the James where she has been the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic's representative to the CCCT. She has been the chair of Churchwide Leadership Enhancement Committee and a member of the Finance Committee. She is serving as secretary for PW of the Presbytery of the James and formerly their assistant newsletter editor. She says she was part of the CCT group representing PW at the 221st General Assembly of the PCUSA and thrilled when family friend Heath Rada (from our own WNC Presbytery) was elected moderator!

ECONOMY OF GRACE –GUATEMALA MICROLOANS: *Mimi Michael and Guatemala Micro Loan Task Force.* Mimi and this group of women are working to spread the word on how women in our presbytery can be involved in raising the economic standard of our sisters in Guatemala. In November

2013 women from all three partnership presbyteries, here and in Central America met to discuss this issue. Given the difficult economic situations most Guatemalans face micro loans can enable women to supplement income and provide for their Presbyterian Women work. Participants will learn about the 5 C's of lending,, how micro loans work and how you can be involved. One of the chapters of our 20114-15 Bible Study describes the one way we can live into an "Economy of Grace."

Our offerings for our gatherings will be focused on special interests of each group of the women in that particular church and you are asked to prayerfully support these most worthy causes as you make your gifts. Checks should be made payable to **PW PWNC** and will be directed to the projects. At the **Morganton** gathering on September 6th ,the offering will be supporting the "**Guatemala Micro Loan Project.**" On September at **Canton**, the offering will be supporting "**The Back Pack Project**" which fills back packs with items for school children in need of food over the weekends. As you can see, each of these fulfills special needs for groups of folks who are "some of the least" of whom Christ spoke.

Make your plans to register as early as possible so that workshop leaders can make plans for you and so that the hosting groups can plan their hospitality for you! The registration forms may be found in this issue of the **JOYUL NOISE**...why not register as soon as possible instead of putting it aside and forgetting until the last minute!!! We look forward to seeing you there and sharing a wonderful morning and lunchtime of fellowship and growing in faith, renewing friendships and meeting new friends!



Presbyterian Women, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

For those of you who have never attended a Presbyterian Women Summer Gathering of the Mid-Atlantic Synod I must tell you that you have missed a very rewarding experience. Outstanding leaders led the workshops and the information shared is relative to what is happening today and pertains to other aspects of church life. Nothing compares to having the author lead the Bible study. Which was the case this year.

I didn't really know anyone when I went to this year's Synod Gathering, I had briefly met Barbara MacLean when she attended one of our cluster meetings. However, I did not feel like a stranger. Everyone was warm and welcoming. You could join any group and be included in the conversation.

Mealtime was very enjoyable, usually there were six ladies at your table. The food was excellent and plentiful. We enjoyed line dancing and also made items for missions, i.e. Linus blankets for pediatric patients, hygiene kits and other items for our military personnel. The campus is like a huge park, well groomed and beautiful.

If you are able to attend one of these gatherings in the future, please do. You will learn and have a good time too!

Sue Hawkins,
PW Moderator

New Hope
Presbyterian Church, Gastonia

If you are receiving the Joyful Noise by snail mail and you have an email address, please send it to us so we may begin to send the Joyful Noise to you via email in order to save the postage. Send your email address along with your name and the name of your church to pwjoyfulnoise@aol.com. Thank you.

GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP (CONT)

Shared Verse, Prayer, and Song for 2014: As a way of remembering and praying for one another, **PW groups in all three presbyteries are encouraged to use this liturgy**, written by participants in the women's retreat in Guatemala. Hand-outs or bookmarks are available; please contact Mimi Michael if interested.

Verse: For the Mighty One has done great things for me - holy is his name." Luke 1:49

Prayer: Holy God, thank you for doing great things

for us. As we gather, we remember our sisters in all three presbyteries. Have mercy on us and help us continue this partnership of women. May the plans and decisions we make glorify you. In the name of Jesus, our Savior, Amen

Song: Found in Sing the Faith #2007 or Glory to God #595

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: You are holy, Lord!



Presbyterian Women, Synod of the Mid-Atlantic

26th Summer Gathering, June 5 – 8
Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center in
Harrisonburg, VA.

We enjoyed wonderful fellowship at summer gathering...we saw friends we had made at previous gatherings and met new friends! There were great leaders for all aspects of our worship: Dr. Dianna Wright, Gathering Chaplain, The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, Bible Study leader, Frances Turner, Devotions, The Rev. Emily Owen, Keynote Speaker, and Rev. Nona Holy, Sunday Worship Leader. We had 24 workshops to choose from! You could sing in the choir with music leaders Linda Wardell, Rev. Dr. Carrie L. Stine, and Lydia Oliver Bak.

There were hands-on mission opportunities. We packed men's and women's personal hygiene kits and made Project Linus blankets.

For more relaxation, you could join in the line dancing with Doug and Donna Riley. The Rev. Dr. Fred Holbrook provided hay rides for us to see more of the grounds.

A silent auction raised over \$2,000 which is a means of raising funds to support the Synod PW Coordinating Team budget. The Mission Offering received was \$2,321. The recipients of this offering are On Eagle's Wings Ministries which serves victims caught in the web of sex trafficking in NC, and Sunset Gap Community Center, a Christian-based organization uniting people of all faiths and

providing programs that contribute to the physical, social, economic, and spiritual growth of the People of Cocke and Sevier counties in Tennessee. A Hunger Offering was received via cups placed on dining tables at each meal. This offering was used to support Family Promise of Northern New Castle County in New Castle Presbytery.

There were 247 in attendance with eight from our Presbytery. Patricia Clark was installed as Moderator Elect of the Synod CT, Cathy Clevenger was on the Summer Gathering Team in charge of Arrangements, Chris Gantt provided the Silent Auction items for our Presbytery, Becky Lineberger had the Service of Remembrance, Barbara McLean introduced the Mission Speaker, and Sharon Meares extinguished the Christ Candle and had a closing prayer. Sue Hawkins and Marje Wells were two of the 50+ first-time attendees!

Talk to any of these ladies who went for more information. You can also go on Facebook and type in PWSSG and see many pictures of the gathering. You will see a picture of the stage that Cathy decorated. We encourage you to attend next year. Because the Churchwide Gathering will be held in 2015, the Summer Gathering will be a day shorter. It will be on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 12 – 14. Hope to see you there!

Becky Lineberger

Dates to Remember

Aug. 7-10, 2014	Women's Connection	Montreat, NC
Sept. 6, 2014	Western Fall Gathering	Canton, NC
Sept. 13, 2014	Eastern Fall Gathering	Morganton, NC
Nov. 1, 2014	Fall CT Meeting	Morganton, NC
Nov. 15, 2014	Mission Pledge Due	Presbytery Moderator
June 13-15, 2015	Synod Summer Gathering	Massenetta Springs, VA
June 18-21, 2015	Churchwide Gathering	Minneapolis, Minnesota



News for Presbyterian Women
of Western North Carolina

Editor: Jane Lee Vondette

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