

**Presbyterian Women
Presbytery of Western North Carolina
July 1, 2017**

Highlights of the Synod Summer Gathering ...

The 2017 Synod Summer Gathering was held the weekend of June 15-18, at the Massanetta Springs Conference Center. There were 181 Presbyterian Women (PW) in attendance of which six were from western North Carolina in addition to two PW husbands.

The overview of the 2018 *Horizons* Bible study, *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ is Hebrews*, was led by Rev. Lynn Miller of Jackson, Mississippi. Rev. Miller has authored previous *Horizons* Bible Studies and currently working on the 2020 Study of Lament. She also designed the PW Honorary Life Membership Pin.

The keynote speaker was Rev. Denise Anderson of National Capital Presbytery and Co-Moderator of the 222nd General Assembly of the PC (USA). Rev. Anderson also led a powerful discussion of the book *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debbie Irving.

The mission offering in the amount of \$2,361 was collected for the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands. An additional \$195 in gift cards was also collected. The money collected in the cents-ability cups, located on each table in the dining room, in the amount of \$199 was collected for the Staunton Augusta Church Relief Association (SACRA).

The PW Synod Coordinating team sponsored both live and silent auctions during the gathering. The proceeds from the auctions, in the amount of \$2,538, will be used to supplement the gathering budget. A special thanks to Chris Gantt for donating lamps for our Presbytery.

Through the generosity of the PW in attendance at the Synod Summer Gathering, we nurtured our faith through prayer and Bible study, supported the mission of the church, worked for justice and peace, built a caring community of women, and strengthen the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) [paraphrased] while in fellowship with each other and having fun. Overall, the gathering was packed with opportunities to shop, learn, fellowship with friends old and new, dancing, quilting, and much, much more!

Important dates to remember....

Fall Gathering-West, Bryson City PC	September 23, 2017
Fall Gathering – East, Green Street PC	September 30, 2017
Women's Connection, Montreat	August 11 -13, 2017
Spring Gathering – Location TBA	April 14, 2018
Churchwide Gathering, Louisville, KY	August 2 – 5, 2018

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Joyner, PW Moderator
Presbytery WNC