

Newsletter for Presbyterian Women of the Milwaukee Presbytery

Grapevine

"I am the vine, you are the branches" John 15:5

April 2022

edited by Beth Gallagher, Linn Church

Try as I might, uppermost on my mind these days is the plight of the citizens of Ukraine. Please join with me in prayer for the carnage to end. Praise those who have opened their arms and hearts to those fleeing for their lives and those who are staying behind to 'face the enemy'. Yes, pray, but also take action, any way you are able. Donate cash to help, advocate and speak up when you are witness to prejudices and closed hearts. Be a witness for Christ.

With that off my mind. Have you noticed the signs of spring popping through the snow? Yes, I said snow. What a surprise on Saturday, just when we were SO ready for spring. Just as we experience ups and downs in the weather, so we experience mountain tops and valleys on our life's journey. These past two years have been closer to the valley, but we may see our way out. If you are like me, I am ready to discuss something more meaningful than my need to 'just move on'. I am ready for serious reflection and discussion about topics that touch my soul and lead me forward on my faith journey. Join me on Saturday, April 23 as Rev. Carol Wickersham helps us to appreciate and understand the true meaning of TRUST. Just how strongly do we put our trust in God when life's path redirects our lives? Let's explore together. Be sure to register with Judy to receive the Zoom link.



Presbyterian Women Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



PW Purpose: Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves: to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, so support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women the strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Opportunities for fulfilling this purpose:

Bible study: This year's study of 'lessons our grandmother's taught us: the genealogy of Jesus has been found to be enlightening by many of you. Plan now to order copies of the **2022-2023 Horizons Bible study, Celebrating Sabbath**. Those of you with Horizon magazine subscriptions should be receiving your copies of the new study soon. Share the news with others in your congregation. These studies always offer a surprising new perspective on familiar scripture.

Mission opportunities:

Disaster Relief-International Refugee Programs (DR000156). This designated account supplements the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering to enable a significant response for humanitarian efforts to assist International refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Gifts can be designated for Ukraine.

Send checks to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700 Pittsburgh, PA 15264

Recycle empty amber pill bottles:

- Remove labels, leaving no glue or residue,
- Wash bottles in very hot water and dish soap
- Rinse and dry thoroughly
- Replace lids
- Sort by size

Place sorted bottles in large Ziplock bags marked Clean Bottles

Mail to Matthew 25 Ministries at:

11060 Kenwood Road

Cincinnati, OH 45242

There are a number of mission opportunities within the Synod (check with your PW moderator or the latest copy of the Sower (synod newsletter) as well as needs within your home community.

Don't forget to support PW with your annual pledge and the Birthday Offering collected each spring. This year's Birthday offering will support a mission in Maine and one in Puerto Rico.

Work for Justice and Peace:

The PW in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies is offering opportunities to join book studies to learn and discuss areas of injustice and inequity within our communities.

Beloved Child: a Dakota Way of Life is suggested reading for the Synod Gathering. The group meets by Zoom. Register by contacting Marilyn Stone at mmstone52@att.net. Dates: May 16 and 23, and June 6. Daytime study 1:30-2:30 p.m. Evening study: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Central time.

Beloved Child: a Dakota Way of Life is recommended reading prior to Rev. Dr. Clifford Canku's workshop at the PW Synod Gathering which will be held on June 16-19 in Sioux City, IA. You will also find in this newsletter, registration information for the PW Synod Gathering. This gathering will have several workshops with leadership from members of Dakota Presbytery and the worship leader is Rev. Danelle Crawford McKinney.

Trust Women: A Progressive Christian Argument for reproductive Justice by Rebecca Todd Peters is the choice for the Justice and Peace book discussion to be held via Zoom on May 9. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/justice to register.

Build an inclusive, caring community of women:

Build fellowship with other women by joining in the gatherings being offered. On the following page, you will find a flyer with information on the virtual spring gathering offered for all women within Milwaukee presbytery on April 23rd. We may even have some attending from other presbyteries with Wisconsin.

Also, attached to this newsletter, there is information on the Synod Gathering to be held in Sioux City, IA on June 16-22, 2022. There is also information in this newsletter on the pre-gathering mission event on Thursday, June 16. Find a kindred spirit to attend with you. Travel together, share a room and experience a life changing event. Fellowship, worship, sing, pray, explore, laugh and enjoy time with amazing women from all 16 presbyteries within the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. *The PWP of Milwaukee is offering \$200 scholarships to anyone attending the synod gathering in June. Contact Helen McMasters for details.*

Have a blessed spring. If you have questions or want further information on any information in this newsletter, just contact Judy Bell at jmoinebell@aol.com or Helen McMasters at mcmasters.helen@gmail.com.

See Attachments:

PWS Gathering, Pre-Gathering information
PWS Gathering information
PWS NACC Book Study

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