



# The Sower

*Newsletter for the Presbyterian Women in the  
Synod of Lakes & Prairies*



February, 2023

Kathleen Keefer, Editor

## *Moderator's Musings:*

Greetings from frigid South Dakota.

First, I want to be sure all Presbytery Moderators are aware there will be a Zoom Moderator's Conference Feb. 16 3 p.m. CT and 2 p.m. MT. This will be a 90 minute structured conversation. If you haven't received the emailed flyer, please contact Lana or I.

Second, just a reminder that there are two more Zoom treasurer trainings Feb. 4 at 3 p.m. CT [2 p.m. MT] and Feb. 7 at 2 p.m. CT [1 p.m. MT]. These cover the same information, so you need only attend one. These sessions are for all treasurers at all levels and everyone who may ever consider being a treasurer or anyone who wants to know what our treasurers are doing and why. So basically, everyone in the Synod! Again, if you didn't get the emailed flyer, contact Lana or I.

Our leadership at the national level are listening to the concerns from PW groups and are responding with these kinds of resources, so let's utilize them to create a stronger PW.

Next I want to encourage you all to be involved in your Presbytery meetings. Many of the overtures and resolutions passed by the General Assembly are coming to your Presbyteries to be voted on very soon. Read up on them and join the discussion.

Some excellent books I read this year that pertain to some of these issues are:

- *Trust Women* by the Rev. Rebecca Todd Peters, a Presbyterian minister
- *The Turnaway Study* by Dr. Diana Greene Foster
- *Unclobber* by Colby Martin, published by the Westminster John Knox Press
- *No Justice for Agnes* by Wayne Fanebust
- *Understanding Poverty* by Dr. Ruby K. Payne

The first two address women's autonomy and reproductive rights.

The third one is a guide to rethinking our misuse of the Bible on homosexuality.

*No Justice* is based on historical events in South Dakota and deal with wealth and justice.

The last one was written in 1996 but was revised in 2005. It is an eye-opener. Who knew there were hidden rules we all follow, whether we live in poverty, are middle class, or wealthy?

I am looking forward to reading the book, *What Kind of Christianity* by Dr. William Yoo and attending the Webinar that has been arranged as part of the Justice & Peace Book Study, Feb. 13 at 5:30 p.m. CT [4:30 p.m. MT]. Dr. Yoo looks at the devastating history of self-interested and self-justifying white Presbyterians using their wealth, intellect, and even Scripture itself to defend slavery and define Black persons as racially inferior. So maybe saying 'looking forward to reading' is not accurate because I'm sure this will be a hard read, but so necessary if we are to

move forward as a denomination. Please read and use the Litany of Repentance that came out of the General Assembly. The first step to healing is to recognize the hurt and ask for forgiveness.

Winter is the perfect season to stay indoors with a good book and a cuppa. A cat on the lap is nice, too.

God bless each of you.

In Christ,

Louise Van Poll, Moderator



### FAITH---WHAT'S ENOUGH?

By Karen Moore, Wellspring 365 Meditations to Refresh Your Soul

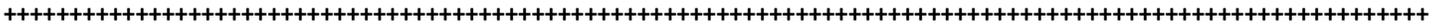
Jesus said to him, "If you are able!—All things can be done for the one who believes. Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief." Mark 9:23-24

Most of us can empathize with the poor father who struggled with his faith in the story Mark has noted here. We want to believe. In our best moments, we do believe. In our worst moments, we question what we believe. We're not always certain we have enough of this thing called faith.

Alas, we can't buy more faith on the open market, but we may be able to buy into the concept, the idea, the fact of faith in such a way that we do indeed receive more of it. Perhaps faith is something like love. The more of it you give away, the more of it you use, the more you have. If so, why don't we look for every opportunity to share our faith, to ground our faith, to substantiate our faith in such a way that lack is never a problem? When someone we love is struggling in their life, we call on our faith knowing that with God all things are possible.

Take a moment and measure your faith quotient today. Is it enough to get you through every twist and turn the day may take? If not, start the day with one request. "Lord, help my lack of faith"

Lord, help me depend on faith and on you in such a way that nothing can really shake it, nothing can take it away from me. Help me know that with faith in you all things are possible. Amen.



### TOGETHER IN SERVICE

By Pat McKisson, Committee Chair

*'Answering the call to be the hands and feet of Christ in the World.'*



Together in Service, formerly known as Mission Opportunities, is one way that Presbyterian Women support mission. In addition to undertaking self-selected mission projects, we can also be "Together in Service" through financial gifts. The generous giving of Presbyterian Women to Together in Service funds mission initiatives such as health care, education, reconciliation and healing, poverty relief and more, as well as support for existing denominational and ecumenical programs.

Presbyterian Women answer the call to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Whether it's by picking up knitting needles to create a blanket for a child in need or picking up a crowbar to participate in disaster recovery work, Presbyterian Women get to work when there's a need.

Presbyterian Women also offer ongoing support to local church or community projects, committing to answering short-term needs in their communities, or providing goods, labor, or financial support for Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) mission work.

Your Together in Service Team, Janine Brandt, Audrey Fenton and Pat McKisson, are identifying missions we would like to see your P.W. groups embrace plus adding other suggestions on how to be Christ's hands and feet in our communities and around the world.

For 2023, our main focus for missions will be:

1. Native American Relationships/Partnering with the Dakota Presbytery
2. Bullying – Blue Hat Initiative

3. Prescription Bottle collection for Matthew 25 Ministries
4. Gifts of the Heart kits.
5. Church World Service kits.
6. Hands on knitting/crocheting missions for women who may not be able to get out for other projects but are able to do this type of project at home.

Our committee is developing a ‘Together in Service Book of Projects’ Native American partnership opportunities, mission ideas and other suggestions. It is being sent to all the Presbytery Moderators within the Synod of Lakes and Prairies. They in turn will forward it on to all church P.W. Moderators within their presbytery.

Our hopes are that this book will give everyone a reference to Together in Service projects that are already being supported and additionally we hope to give someone a chance to embrace a new mission that speaks to them. Everyone is urged to review the booklet and send any mission ideas to Pat McKisson (e-mail pmac0247@gmail.com) that your churches have and would like to share. These can be added to the document as it is updated.

The Together in Service committee looks forward to developing and sharing resources with all of the P.W. groups within our presbyteries.



**Faith of a Child – Helen Steiner Rice**

Tiny hands and tousled heads  
 That kneel in prayer  
 By little beds  
 Are closer to the  
 Dear Lord’s heart  
 And of His kingdom  
 More a part  
 Than we who search  
 And never find  
 The answers to our  
 Questioning minds===  
 For faith in things we cannot see  
 Requires a child’s simplicity.



Photo by Kelly Sikkema via Unsplash.com

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**In the Nov./Dec. 2022 issue of *Horizons* (pg. 34), Magdalene Lewis**, advocate to UN Economic and Social Council for PW PC(USA), reported: “The United Nations designated *16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence*. On Day 2 of the 16 Days of Activism 2022, UN Women offered a list of ten ways to end violence against women.

- Speak up, speak out.
- Know the issue—and the signs.
- Call out sexual harassment.
- Challenge beliefs on masculinity.
- Fund women’s organizations.
- Call for better responses and services.
- Demand more data.
- Push for stronger laws.

- Support women’s leadership.
- Build solidarity with other movements.”

Magdalene Lewis offers this prayer: “God of love, we give thanks for the signs of determined life and hope among us, even if they sometimes feel tiny and overshadowed by forces that seem so strong and dominating. We pray for life-giving power that we receive from you. We pray for all people who work courageously to end gender-based violence. We pray for all people who protest in the streets, squares and churches. We remember and give thanks for the lives and legacies of those who are no longer among us. We pray for all who have not yet learned to express their emotions and affections. We pray for those who have chosen to dominate others through violence, that they will feel your guidance to repent of violence and find peace. We pray for wisdom and guidance for all who courageously seek help to break the cycle of violence. We pray for all institutions and shelters that welcome survivors of violence. We ask that you hear the cries of our siblings who have been gravely harmed by violence, including refugees and trans women. We pray for the churches and individuals who offer comfort to those experiencing gender-based violence. We pray for love, peace and justice among us. Amen.”

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**2023 Annual PW Gathering for Northern Waters Presbytery**

Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30 Registration, 10:00 Program begins

Celebrating the Strength of Women

‘Her beauty stems from her fortitude and wisdom’

Proverbs 31:25 “Strength and dignity are her clothing and she laughs at the time to come.”

Psalms 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are you works, my soul knows it very well.”

Speaker: Marilyn Stone “Unwrap the Gift of Presbyterian Women”

Location: Lakeside Presbyterian Church,

4430 McCulloch Street

Duluth, Minnesota

Contact: Betty Opland phone: 218-626-1055 email address: [oplandbetty@gmail.com](mailto:oplandbetty@gmail.com)

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**Go Directly to the Lord** – Helen Steiner Rice

Waste no time in crying  
 On the shoulder of a friend,  
 But go directly to the Lord,  
 For on Him you can depend  
 For there’s absolutely nothing  
 That His mighty hand can’t do.  
 An He never is too busy  
 To help and comfort you.



Photo by Milada Vigarova via Unsplash.com

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**DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES???**



The Synod Search Committee is looking for a few good women to fill leadership roles within our synod. We are searching for an Area 3 Moderator. Area 3 consists of: Prospect Hill, North Central Iowa, John Knox, Missouri River Valley, Des Moines and East Iowa. This is a 3-year commitment. We are also looking for a Synod Secretary. This is also a 3-year commitment. So, if you are interested, or know who may be, please email me at [hdougherty2018@gmail.com](mailto:hdougherty2018@gmail.com) Thank you in advance for your help. Peace and Blessings, Hope Dougherty, Moderator, Northern Waters Presbytery & Search Committee Representative.

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**EXCITING NEWS!!** PWSCT is looking for **volunteers to serve on the 2025 Synod Gathering Committee**. If interested, contact PWS Moderator, Louise Van Poll ([lcvanpoll@gmail.com](mailto:lcvanpoll@gmail.com)) with your ideas, suggestions, site options and willingness to serve.



**Luverne PW** held their annual Mission Sunday activities. The pictures show part of the donations that were given to some of our local places where needed. This was held in November. On January 22 we had our church soup and dessert meal after our church service. We have proceeds of \$779.57 all to be donated to the Southwest Crisis Center. Our quilters have given 12 quilts to SHARE and also 4 quilts to the Southwest Crisis Center.



### Women's Leadership Development and Young Women's Ministries

- We support national networks that target specific groups of young adult women. Currently there are two national networks supported by the office. National Network of Presbyterian College Women serves college age women (ages 18-25). Racial Ethnic Young Women Together serves racial ethnic women between the ages of 18 and 35.
- We can provide young women with opportunities to serve in various leadership positions at a national level. Our office partners with other PC(USA) agencies to increase young women's voice and representation in the church.
- We organize national and regional events that offer young women leadership training and opportunities for networking with peers and mentors.
- We seek to globalize leadership development of young women by partnering with ecumenical agencies.

If you'd like more information on this ministry, contact Jewel McRae at [jewel.mcrae@pcusa.org](mailto:jewel.mcrae@pcusa.org) or 800-728-7228, ext. 5848, or 502-569-5848.

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## FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN



“Around the world the Fellowship of the Least Coin (FLC) brings connection and comfort. Whether one prays for wholeness for all people, setting aside a coin as a symbol of that prayer, ... the Fellowship of the Least Coin changes lives.” Liza B. Lamis, Int’l Comm. of FLC, *Horizons* (Nov./Dec.2022, pgs.17-20). FLC 2022 Project Grants of \$3,000 were given from FLC’s Prayer Movement to:

Raising the Voices of Single Mothers in Burundi; Self-reliance for Disadvantaged Widows in Cameroon; Educating Community on Challenges Facing Women in Tanzania; Purposing Religious Approach in Sustainable Engagement (PRAISE) in Kenya; Livelihood Improvement Through Livestock Production and Climate Change Adaptation in Malawi; Feeding the Body, Mind and Spirit: A Holistic Shelter for Foreign Domestic Helpers in Hong Kong; Reconciling Distressed Women to God’s Deep Comfort in Philippines;

Youth Leadership Training in Thailand; Women Doing Theology in Laos; UnMute Now, ‘Empowering Generation Z’ in United Kingdom; New Beginnings after the Pandemic—Ecumenical Prayer Chain in Romania; We Needle in Lebanon; Montessori Materials for Benevolent Lebanese Evangelical School for Special Education and Development (BLESSED School) in Lebanon; Psychosocial Support to Children and Mothers in Lebanon; Empowering Refugee and Low-Income Women in Jordan; Stop Gender-based Violence Against Women in Papua New Guinea; Stop Stigma, Discrimination and Violence Against People Living with HIV/AIDS in Papua New Guinea; Women and Girls Access to Education in Papua New Guinea and \$1,000 to Economy is Care in Switzerland.

More information at [presbyterianwomen.org/leastcoin](http://presbyterianwomen.org/leastcoin).

The next PWSCT meeting with PWP Moderators and PWS officers is set for April 14-16, 2023 in Luverne, Minnesota. Please plan to attend and send your RSVP to Lana Schultz, PWS Vice Moderator, [lanaj0@casselton.net](mailto:lanaj0@casselton.net) by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

“The office of **Racial Equity & Women’s Intercultural Ministries and PW** awarded three church and community leaders with the Women of Faith Award.” These individuals exemplify “Women Leading Movements for Positive Change:”

1. Lauren Jacobs, co-founder of Treasured Inheritance Ministry, which focuses on theological education, training church leaders and advocating for the end to gender-based violence across the world.
2. abby mohaupt for her leadership as moderator of Fossil Free PCUSA, an advocacy organization working to end the denomination’s relationship with both fossil fuels and the harmful effects of capitalism.
3. Tamara Williams, stated clerk of the Presbytery of Charlotte, was praised for her historical knowledge, personal integrity, calm counsel, and ability to connect with every kind of person. *Horizons* (Nov./Dec. 2022) pg. 27.



The next **Justice and Peace Book Discussion** on Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m. is a special webinar with the author of *What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church*. Author Professor William Yoo in this book demonstrates that to understand how Presbyterian Christians can promote racial justice today, they must first understand and acknowledge how deeply racial injustice is embedded in their history and identity as a denomination. To sign up for this and other free discussions, visit [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://presbyterianwomen.org/justice) for information on specific dates for this year’s J&P book discussions and for a downloadable flier to share.

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#Giving Tuesday is a particular day for reflecting on what matters. With grateful hearts and abundant faith, consider a gift to Presbyterian Women, an organization close to your heart! Your generous gift today ensures that Presbyterian Women’s vital ministries will continue in the future. Go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/giving-tuesday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/giving-tuesday) and include “Giving Tuesday” in the Comments section.

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The Honorary Life Membership (HLM) program was established in the Presbyterian Church to honor faithful service to the women’s organization and to the church. More than a thousand women (and a few men) receive this honor each year, many on Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday.

Funds derived from Honorary Life Memberships support the PW Leadership Development Grant Program. Grants from this program enable individuals to engage in leadership development opportunities such as the Churchwide Gathering, Ecumenical Advocacy Days and the UN Commission on the Status of Women.



The meaning of the pin/pendant: The caring, supportive hands represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women. The leaf represents growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith. The dove indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, shown in the globe. At the center of the design is the cross, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ who is at the center of our lives. The overall design is of a butterfly, a symbol of newness in Christ.

In my church, the moderator decided that ALL women are faithful in their service to PW and to the PC(USA) and so all women were given a silver pin/pendant. Leadership Development Grant Development received the money and grants were distributed. It’s a win-win!!

The next PWSCT meeting with PWP Moderators and PWS officers is set for April 14-16, 2023 in Luverne, Minnesota. Please plan to attend and send your RSVP to Lana Schultz, PWS Vice Moderator, [lanaj0@casselton.net](mailto:lanaj0@casselton.net) by April 1<sup>st</sup>.



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Bdecan Presbyterian Church, Tokio, ND (on Spirit Lake Reservation) and PNP Bdecan Ministry Team is seeking an individual or couple to fill our Church Ministries and Outreach Coordinator position at Bdecan on a full-time basis. We are looking for an energetic person to lead worship, plan lessons and coordinate volunteers to teach Sunday School during Sunday morning worship, plan and implement various holiday parties and giveaways, promote Summer Church Camp Program, work with Mission Teams, reaching out to churches in Presbyterian Church and beyond to spread the story and do fund raising to maintain position and Food Pantry, update social media and website, coordinate food pantry and clothing closet by maintain records for Great Food Bank - order food - coordinate volunteers to work the day of food pantry. For any information or to apply send resume and cover letter to Donna Preston at [preston@gra.midco.net](mailto:preston@gra.midco.net). Hoping to fill position by May 2023 but is open until the right person is hired.

**JOHN KNOX PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN UPDATE  
February 2023**

Six members of the **John Knox Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team** met via Zoom on February 4, 2023. We're excited about plans for our upcoming Spring Gathering to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023 hosted by First Presbyterian Church in Waukon, Iowa. Beverly Larson-Needham, an organ transplant recipient, will be our speaker on the organ donor program.

Four John Knox Presbyterian Women (Barb Cook and Mary Quandahl from Frankville, IA and Ruth Hein and Kathy Granquist from Madison, WI) participated in the Presbytery of Milwaukee PW's Retreat for Women held October 28-29, 2022 in Waukesha, WI. The retreat theme was "Choosing a Life of Gratitude," led by Rev. Danelle Crawford McKinney. JKPW appreciates Milwaukee Presbyterian Women for their invitations to take part in events like this!



The moderator has received annual reports for 2022 from five churches. Activities included: a Holiday Fair, donations to food pantries, making fleece blankets and tied quilts, donating school supplies, a "Pie a la Mode" stand for RAGBRAI, making bags for Sunday School children, Trunk-or-Treat events, ice cream social, chili supper, Christmas stockings, grab-and-go meals, crocheting plarn mats, and elderly/nursing home visits.



**HOMESTEAD GATHERING:**

We were blessed to have received over \$3,000 for our Synod Gathering offering. This money was divided 1/2 to the Susan LaFlesche Picotte Center and 1/2 to Marion Medical Mission.

The money received by Marion Medical Mission was able to provide 4 wells. 3 wells are in Tanzania and one was in Zambia.

Over 415 people will be served by our 4 wells. Your generosity will bless these folks for years to come.



Volunteer's photo~ Mission Trip

**Why we go:**  
A typical water source in Malawi, Tanzania, and Zambia.

*"I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward."* Mark 9:41

This new well was installed 10/6/2022

In the village of Mbebe, Tanzania

And will serve 250 people

Donated by PW Of Synod Of Lakes & Prairies

#0826 MMM-A252 10-06-2022

The Well Program not only provides safe drinking water, but also the necessary knowledge, skills, and tools to manage and maintain the protected water source, so that safe drinking water continues in future years. Where wells have been built, waterborne diseases are eliminated.

Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest under-5 mortality rate in the world. Safe drinking water means the difference between life and death.



## JUSTICE &amp; PEACE CALENDAR

**FEBRUARY**

Black History Month; [blackhistorymonth.gov](http://blackhistorymonth.gov)

- National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, [teendvmonth.org](http://teendvmonth.org)
- 1 National Freedom Day, [state.gov/national-freedom-day-deepening-our-resolve-to-fight-humantrafficking](http://state.gov/national-freedom-day-deepening-our-resolve-to-fight-humantrafficking)
- 1–7 World Interfaith Harmony Week, [worldinterfaithharmonyweek.com](http://worldinterfaithharmonyweek.com)
- 12 International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, [redhandday.org](http://redhandday.org)
- 12 Souper Bowl of Caring, [tacklehunger.org](http://tacklehunger.org) 1
- 2–18 National Random Acts of Kindness Week, [randomactsofkindness.org](http://randomactsofkindness.org)
- 13 One Billion Rising for Justice, [onebillionrising.org](http://onebillionrising.org)
- 13 J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) Special author presentation on What Kind of Christianity: A History of Slavery and Anti-Black Racism in the Presbyterian Church by William Yoo (Westminster John Knox Press, 2022). Register at [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://presbyterianwomen.org/justice)
- 22 Ash Wednesday; [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/ash-wednesday](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/ash-wednesday)

**MARCH**

- Women’s History Month, [womenshistorymonth.gov](http://womenshistorymonth.gov)
- 3 World Day of Prayer, [wdp-usa.org](http://wdp-usa.org) or [worlddayofprayer.net](http://worlddayofprayer.net)
- 5 Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday, [pcusa.org/women](http://pcusa.org/women)
- 5–11 PW Together in Action for Women’s Empowerment, [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://presbyterianwomen.org/justice)
- 6–17 UN Commission on the Status of Women, [unwomen.org/en/csw/csw67-2023](http://unwomen.org/en/csw/csw67-2023)
- 8 International Women’s Day, [internationalwomensday.com](http://internationalwomensday.com) or [un.org/en/observances/womens-day](http://un.org/en/observances/womens-day)
- 12 Self-Development of People Sunday, [presbyterianmission.org/sdop-sunday](http://presbyterianmission.org/sdop-sunday)
- 13 J&P Book Discussion Group online, 6:30–8:30 PM (Eastern) Climate Justice: Hope, Resilience and the Fight for a Sustainable Future by Mary Robinson (New York: Bloomsbury, 2018). Register at [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](http://presbyterianwomen.org/justice)
- 20 Mr. Rogers Day, [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/theology-formation-and-evangelism/office-of-christian-formation/mr-rogers-day-resources](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/theology-formation-and-evangelism/office-of-christian-formation/mr-rogers-day-resources)
- 20 International Day of Happiness; [daysoftheyear.com/days/international-day-of-happiness](http://daysoftheyear.com/days/international-day-of-happiness)
- 22 World Water Day, [worldwaterday.org](http://worldwaterday.org)
- 25–31 National Farmworker Awareness Week, [saf-unite.org/national-farmworker-awareness-week](http://saf-unite.org/national-farmworker-awareness-week)
- 31 National Farm Workers Day, [nationaltoday.com/national-farm-workers-day](http://nationaltoday.com/national-farm-workers-day)

**APRIL**

- Sexual Assault Awareness Month; [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sexual\\_Assault\\_Awareness\\_Month](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sexual_Assault_Awareness_Month) Ecumenical Advocacy Days; [advocacydays.org](http://advocacydays.org)
- 7 Good Friday; [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/good-friday](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/good-friday)
- 7 World Health Day; [who.int/campaigns/world-health-day](http://who.int/campaigns/world-health-day) 8 International Romani Day; [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Romani\\_Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Romani_Day)
- 9 Easter; [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/resurrection-lord-easter](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/resurrection-lord-easter)
- 18 Holocaust Remembrance Day; [ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/calendar](http://ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance/resources/calendar)
- 21–27 National Agriculture Week; [iatp.org](http://iatp.org)
- 23 Earth Day; [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-day-sunday](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-day-sunday)
- 24 Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day; [presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/churchcalendar/armenian-genocide](http://presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/churchcalendar/armenian-genocide)
- 26 Denim Day; [denimdayinfo.org](http://denimdayinfo.org)



## PERIOD PACK: MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KIT

**NEW FOR 2023!** In many parts of the world, women and girls live in period poverty – lacking access to necessary feminine care supplies. During the menstrual cycle, these hygiene materials are especially important to healthy practices. Not having supplies like sanitary napkins, tampons, soap and disposable plastic bags can create challenges that lead to unsafe and unsanitary conditions.

Now you can help women and girls around the world living in period poverty. The CWS Period Pack gives women and girls the essentials they need to feel clean, be healthy and live with dignity during the menstrual cycle.

### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- One 1-gallon Ziploc bag
- Two 2 oz bottle hand sanitizer
- Three 4-gallon bathroom trash bags
- One travel pack of Wet Ones
- Ten unscented tampons (5 regular, 5 super absorbency.)
- Ten unscented sanitary napkins (Long super ultra-thin.)
- One bath-size bar of soap in the original package (3 oz bar or larger. No Ivory or Jergen's soap.)
- One pack of flushable wipes (Unscented. 42 count.)
- Six laundry detergent sheets (place sheets in small Ziploc bag.)

### ASSEMBLY TIPS

- Place all items in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.
- All items must be new.
- Do not enclose personal notes, money, or extra items in the kits.

CWS Period Packs can be shipped to:

**CWS**  
**Brethren Service Center**  
**60 Main Street**  
**PO Box 188**  
**New Windsor, MD 21776-0118**

Or visit [www.cwskits.org/depots](http://www.cwskits.org/depots) to find a list of kit depots around the country. Most depots are open in the spring or fall. Hours and days vary by location. A full list of depots will be posted on January 1, 2023.



VALUE: \$25

PROCESSING FEE: \$2 per kit



Save the date to gather in person and in faithful community  
at the 2024 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women,

**August 8-11, 2024**

Details to come!

[presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](https://presbyterianwomen.org/gathering)

## PW NATIVE AMERICAN BOOK STUDY

Join us virtually as we grow through our book discussions to learn more about racial injustices and increase our understanding of Native American/Indigenous Peoples' traditions, customs, and historical trauma. We hope this leads to becoming better equipped to build relationships.

**February 6 (1:30 PM or 6:30 PM sessions) and February 20 (1:30 PM session)**

***The Dull Knives of Pine Ridge: A Lakota Odyssey* by Joe Starita**

Synopsis: Joe Starita tells the triumphant and moving story of a Lakota-Northern Cheyenne family. In 1878, the renowned Chief Dull Knife, who fought alongside Crazy Horse, escaped from forced relocation in Indian Territory and led followers on a desperate six-hundred-mile freedom flight back to their homeland. His son, George Dull Knife survived the Wounded Knee Massacre and later toured in Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show. Guy Dull Knife Sr. fought in World War I and took part in the Siege of Wounded Knee in 1973. Guy Dull Knife Jr. fought in Vietnam and is now an accomplished artist.



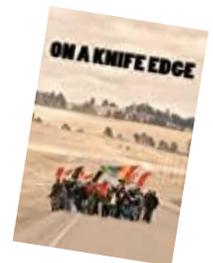
**February 20 (6:30 PM) - Session with author Joe Starita**

The author, Joe Starita, of *“The Dull Knives of Pine Ridge: A Lakota Odyssey”* shares with us the research completed and conversations held in writing this book, what drew him to tell the history of this family, and how it has impacted his life. Time to discuss elements of the book and ask questions will be provided. It’s always an informative session with the author!

**February 27 (1:30 PM or 6:30 PM) viewing documentary, “On a Knife Edge”**

The documentary, *“On a Knife Edge”* that was released in 2017, takes us into the fifth generation of the Dull Knife family. The film is 89 minutes in length and we would have a 30-minute discussion following the viewing and a break.

SUMMARY: "Set against a background of rising tension and protest, a Lakota teenager, George Dull Knife, learns first-hand what it means to lead a new generation and enter adulthood in a world where the odds are stacked against him. Filmed over a five-year period, and culminating with the events at Standing Rock, *On a Knife Edge*, provides a privileged view into the world of George Dull Knife as he becomes politically active with the American Indian Movement, confronts the challenges of growing up on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and wrestles with accepting leadership of his storied family from his father, Guy Dull Knife Jr."



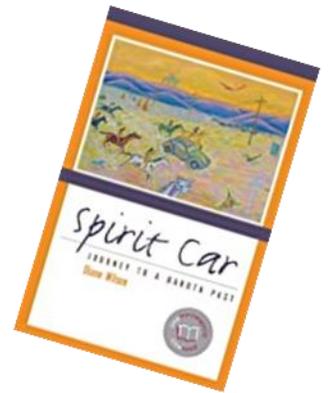
**Register by contacting Marilyn Stone at [mmstone52@att.net](mailto:mmstone52@att.net)**

**Provide the following information:**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| -Name          | -Name                                  |
| -Email address | -Phone #                               |
| -Presbytery    | -Afternoon or evening study preference |

Register today to join a book study . . .

***Spirit Car:***  
***Journey to a Dakota Past***  
**by Diane Wilson**



This book study is sponsored by Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and led by members of the PWS Native American Concerns Committee.

**It is open to interested women and men across the synod**, via Zoom videoconferencing (using computer or phone)  
There is no charge to participate, yet registration is required.

**Dates for 2023: March 20 and April 3**  
**Daytime study begins at 1:30-2:30 PM (CST)**  
**Evening study begins at 6:30-7:30 PM (CST)**

Synopsis: A child of a typical 1950s suburb unearths her mother’s hidden heritage, launching a rich and magical exploration of her own identity and her family’s powerful Native American past.

In her thirties, Diane began to wonder why her mother didn't speak of her past. So she traveled to South Dakota and Nebraska, searching out records of her relatives through six generations, hungry to know their stories. She began to write a haunting account of the lives of her Dakota Indian family, based on research, to recreate their oral history that was lost, or repressed, or simply set aside as gritty issues of survival demanded attention.

Spirit Car is an exquisite counterpoint of memoir and carefully researched fiction, a remarkable narrative that ties modern Minnesotans to the trauma of the Dakota War. Wilson found her family's love and humor—and she discovered just how deeply our identities are shaped by the forces of history.

**Register by contacting Marilyn Stone at [mmstone52@att.net](mailto:mmstone52@att.net)**

**Provide the following information:** - Name

- Email address

- Phone #

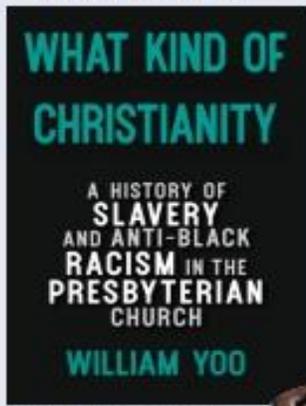
- Presbytery

- Afternoon or evening study preference



# 2023 JUSTICE and PEACE Book Discussion Group

FEBRUARY 13



SPECIAL WEBINAR WITH AUTHOR



DISCUSS THE BOOKS WITH OTHERS VIA ZOOM

• The J&P Book Discussion Group is open to all!



DISCUSSION GROUP MEETS EVERY OTHER MONTH

• Read and discuss any or all books that appeal to you. Registration will be needed to join the discussion on Zoom.



RECEIVE STUDY GUIDES TO INFORM YOUR READING

• Questions for discussion or reflection will be sent with your registration confirmation.

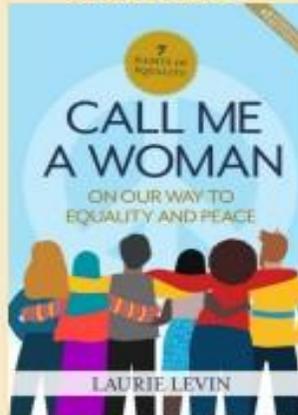


To register, scan the QR code with your smart phone or go to [presbyterianwomen.org/justice](https://presbyterianwomen.org/justice).

## Reading Selections

(6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Eastern Time)

JANUARY 9



JULY 10

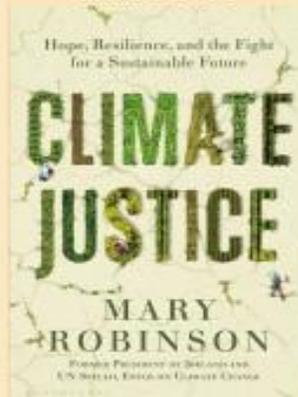
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

### BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY

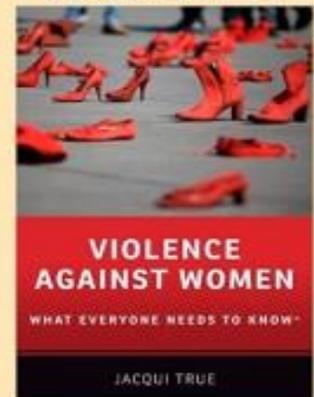


Qian Julie Wang  
A Memoir of an Undocumented Childhood

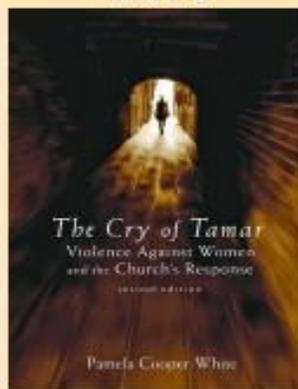
MARCH 13



SEPTEMBER 11



MAY 8



NOVEMBER 13



Selections are recommended by the Justice & Peace Committee of PW's Board of Directors.

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[As of 11/1/2022](#)

The logo for 'The Sower' features the title in a white, elegant serif font set against a solid black rectangular background. The text is centered within the rectangle. Above and below the rectangle, there are small, light gray diamond-shaped markers pointing towards the center of the text.

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