

NAPW HIGHLIGHTS

1973-1976

- Third World Women's Coordinating Committee (TWWCC) formed
- APW organized in Northern California
- Asian woman elected to Council on Women and the Church
- First National Asian Presbyterian Women's (NAPW) Leadership Conference
- APW groups organized in Southern California and New York
- At the Triennial Meeting of United Presbyterian Women (UPW), 14 Asian Presbyterian Women led workshops and participated in the presentation of "Untold Stories" as part of Third World Women.
- First Asian woman elected to the National Executive Committee of UPW: **Rhoda Iyoya**

1977-1981

- First Asian clergywoman in the UPCUSA: **Elizabeth Kwon**
- APW key writers in Asian American Curriculum Project
- APW organized in Chicago region
- Focused on APW leadership development and training in Monterey-Watsonville, CA area
- Participated in the selection process for CA Racial/ Ethnic women's staff
- Four Asian women participated in UPW global experience, "Asian Encounter"
- 16 Asian women served on national agencies and boards

1982-1987

- APW Resource/Study Guide completed
- NAPW 10th Anniversary Conference (1983) with UPW President, Katherine Dean, as speaker
- Significant Asian participation at the "Women and Economic Justice Conference," Washington, D.C.
- Asian women provided leadership on key committees of the newly structured Presbyterian Church (USA)
- APW videotape developed

- APW and Korean Presbyterian Women Dialogue
- NAPW 15th Anniversary Gathering (1987), Redwood City, CA
- Asian women elected to serve as chairs of National Asian Presbyterian Council (NAPC) and TWWCC

1988-1993

- APW organized in South region, Houston, TX, making it the fifth regional unit
- NAPW gathering (1989), "Challenged to Change", Los Angeles, CA
- Northern / Southern California Retreat (1992), "Beyond Our Dreams: New Visions", Redwood City, CA
- NAPW 20th Anniversary Celebration (1993) "Women on the Move," Des Plaines, IL
- First Asian woman to serve on General Assembly Nominating Committee: **June Mochizuki**

1994-1997

- South Region Gathering (1995), Houston, TX
- First Asian woman to serve on the General Assembly Council (GAC): **Maria Yee**
- Greater Asian women participation on Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly committees
- First Asian woman to chair Racial Ethnic Ministry Unit Committee: **Sunok Pai**
- First Asian woman to chair the National Committee of Self- Development of People: **Cynthia Joe**
- First Asian woman to chair the Board of Trustees, Presbyterian Church (USA) Foundation: **Georgette Huie**
- First Asian woman to serve as Moderator of the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women: **Diana Lim**

1998-2000

- NAPW 25th Anniversary Celebration (1998), RE...Membering...Claiming...Dedicating," Burlingame, CA
- Presbyterian Women and Racial/ Ethnic Women Dialogue

- NAPW Task Group Working Retreat (2000), Redwood City, CA

2000-2005

- NAPW Gathering & Leadership Training (2002), Los Angeles, CA and (2004), Houston, TX
- Represented at Multicultural Consultation (2003), Seattle, WA
- Awarded three scholarships for the National Consultation of Racial Ethnic Presbyterian Women (2004), Atlanta, GA

2005-2010

- NAPW Gathering and leadership training (2007), Burlingame, CA
- First Asian woman to serve as Moderator of San Gabriel Presbytery: **Mariko Yanagihara**
- Represented at NAPC/BigTent (June 11-14 2009) Atlanta, GA and at PW Churchwide Gathering (July 11-15 2009) Louisville, KY
- NAPW Gathering and leadership training (April 15-17, 2010) at Orange, CA

2011-2016

- Represented at NAPC/Big Tent and at PW Churchwide Gathering (2012)
- NAPW Gathering South Region "Spiritual Transformation" (April 26-28, 2013), Houston, TX
- NAPW Gathering Northern CA Region "Empowering Christian Women in Leadership" (April 22-24, 2016) Burlingame, CA

2017-2024

- NAPW Gathering Southern CA Region, Laguna Woods, CA (April 26-28, 2019)
- NAPW Gathering, South Region, Houston, TX (June 23-25, 2023)
- **Jeanette Huie** serves as Chair of the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in St. Louis, MO (August 8-11, 2024)
- NAPW members folded origami peace cranes at the PW Churchwide Gathering and taught attendees how to fold

APW HISTORY

In 1972, Women in Leadership funds enabled a representative group of non-white women (Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Native American) to convene for the first time at the national level. As a result of the meeting, the Third World Women's Coordinating Committee (TWWCC) of the former United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. was established to address the concerns of non-white women. The founding women of the TWWCC affirmed that as non-white women we had a special dignity and humanity that came from our diverse experiences, traditions, and cultures. Furthermore, we affirmed that, for the wholeness of the Presbyterian Church, it was important to share our identities by working as leaders, not only in our local congregations, but also in the wider church.

In 1973, Asian Presbyterian Women (APW) was organized under the umbrella of the TWWCC. Brought up with the Asian values of modesty, self-effacement and moderation, it was difficult for us to be assertive and to become visible. We realized that Asian women needed a forum in which to share frustrations and offer support. Subsequently, APW developed leadership-training seminars. The seminars provided Asian women with encouragement, skills and confidence to venture out and accept leadership responsibilities to the wider church.

We have come a long way in the past 32 years, both as individuals and as a community. We are no longer objects of mission. Asian women have become responsible and contributing partners in mission of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

APW MISSION

To equip Asian women with leadership skills and resources for the spreading of God's love throughout the world by:

- Promoting the development of Asian Women;
- Serving as a resource and support network for Asian Presbyterian women;
- Reaffirming the identity and self-worth of Asian women;
- Being an effective partner in Christian mission and outreach;
- Educating the church and the broader community about Asian American concerns and to enrich the cultural diversity of the church;
- Assuring full representation of Asian women within the governing bodies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); and
- Advocating for Asian women on justice issues such as racism, sexism, ageism, classism, etc.

Asian Presbyterian Women



For more information contact:

Linda Lee
(National APW Moderator 2023-2025)
lindalee@prodigy.net