

2025–2026 PW/Horizons Bible Study

Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ

By Rhashell D. Hunter

Suggestions for Leaders by Joyce MacKichan Walker

*I*n this Bible study, we will explore resilience. This is modeled for us by several biblical characters, gospel and epistle writers, as well as Jesus. So, what exactly is resilience?

Resilience is the ability to spring back into shape and to adapt well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or stress—such as from family, relationships, health, workplace, and financial stressors. People who survive and thrive well in change are resilient.

The Bible study is also about joy. How do we find joy in a chaotic world? Christian joy may be different from how a lot of people define joy.

Joy is sometimes confused with happiness. For Christians, joy can occur while we are in the midst of difficult circumstances. Joy is the second fruit of the spirit, preceded by love and followed by peace. [Gal. 5:22–23] Trusting in God when we are in trying times can fill us with glorious joy and peace. We have joy in our suffering, because ultimately our joy is found in Jesus Christ.

We will also seek to rediscover our identity.

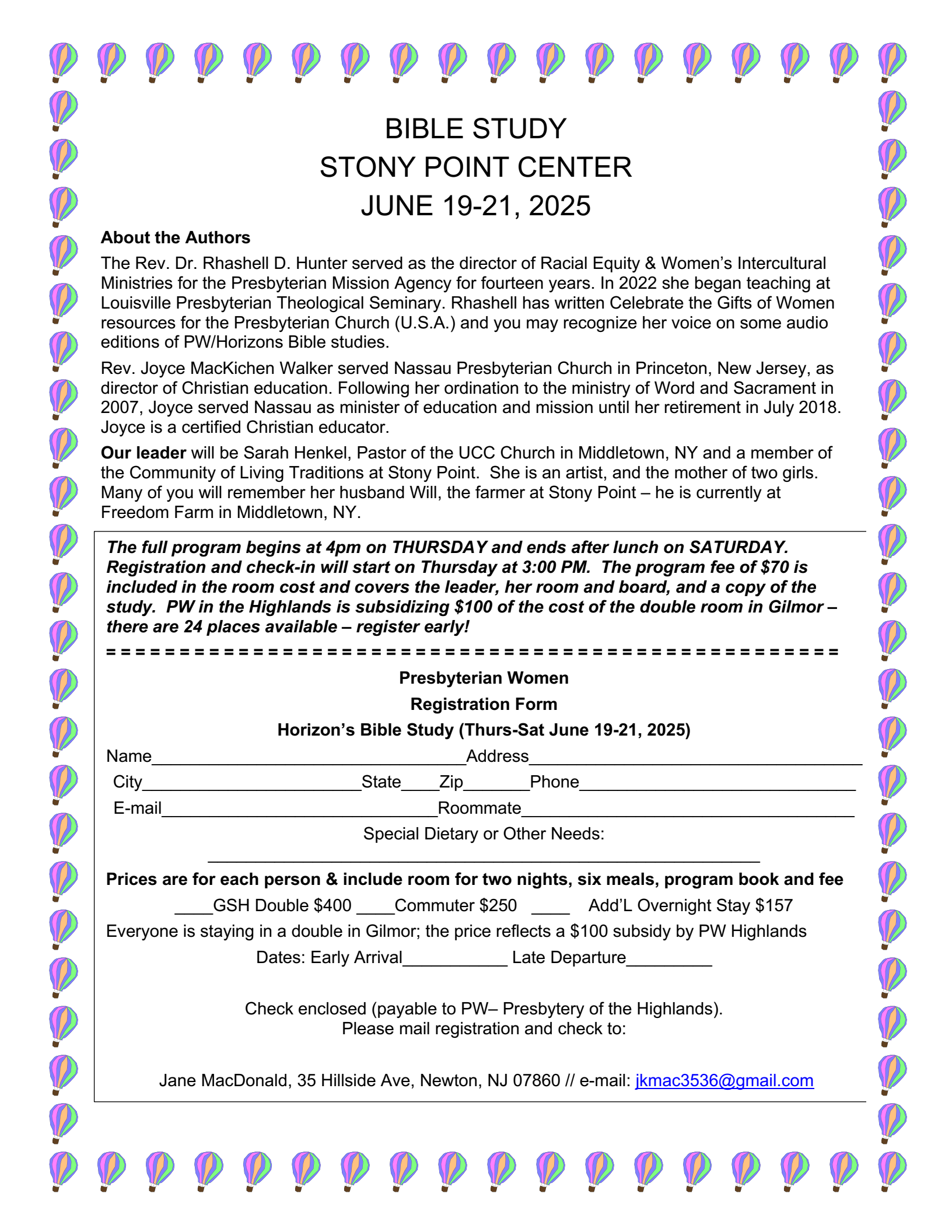
Identity is more than who we are or who we show ourselves to be. At its core, it points to our humanity. Our core identity is not found in our titles, our positions, our spouses, our partners, or our possessions. For Christians, our identity is found in Jesus Christ.

[From the Introduction to *Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*]



Learn more about this
Bible study by visiting
presbyterianwomen.org/bible-study/resilience

See registration form next page.



BIBLE STUDY

STONY POINT CENTER

JUNE 19-21, 2025

About the Authors

The Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter served as the director of Racial Equity & Women's Intercultural Ministries for the Presbyterian Mission Agency for fourteen years. In 2022 she began teaching at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Rhashell has written Celebrate the Gifts of Women resources for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and you may recognize her voice on some audio editions of PW/Horizons Bible studies.

Rev. Joyce MacKichen Walker served Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton, New Jersey, as director of Christian education. Following her ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in 2007, Joyce served Nassau as minister of education and mission until her retirement in July 2018. Joyce is a certified Christian educator.

Our leader will be Sarah Henkel, Pastor of the UCC Church in Middletown, NY and a member of the Community of Living Traditions at Stony Point. She is an artist, and the mother of two girls. Many of you will remember her husband Will, the farmer at Stony Point – he is currently at Freedom Farm in Middletown, NY.

The full program begins at 4pm on THURSDAY and ends after lunch on SATURDAY. Registration and check-in will start on Thursday at 3:00 PM. The program fee of \$70 is included in the room cost and covers the leader, her room and board, and a copy of the study. PW in the Highlands is subsidizing \$100 of the cost of the double room in Gilmor – there are 24 places available – register early!

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Presbyterian Women Registration Form Horizon's Bible Study (Thurs-Sat June 19-21, 2025)

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
E-mail _____ Roommate _____
Special Dietary or Other Needs: _____

Prices are for each person & include room for two nights, six meals, program book and fee

____ GSH Double \$400 ____ Commuter \$250 ____ Add'L Overnight Stay \$157

Everyone is staying in a double in Gilmor; the price reflects a \$100 subsidy by PW Highlands

Dates: Early Arrival _____ Late Departure _____

Check enclosed (payable to PW– Presbytery of the Highlands).

Please mail registration and check to:

Jane MacDonald, 35 Hillside Ave, Newton, NJ 07860 // e-mail: jkmac3536@gmail.com