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Presbyterian Women JCP Fall Gathering

By Mary Lynne Grimes

Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 20 for our next gathering. Pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter includes an informational flyer and the registration form. Our gathering this fall is centrally located at Hillcrest Presbyterian Church in Springfield. Lots of activities are planned including a speaker and discussion about aging spiritually. Women report that engaging with their spiritual beliefs helps navigate the challenges of life and strengthens relationships. Join with your Presbyterian sisters for a day of fellowship, learning and fun!!

Presbyterian Women Peace & Justice Calendar

By Mary Lynne Grimes

A major project of Presbyterian Women is our work for justice and peace. We are called to share God's love with the world, by being God's hands in the world. Presbyterian Women in the Congregation, Presbytery and Synod groups respond to local or regional justice and peace needs such as poverty, racism, human trafficking and violence. Our work can be action, advocacy, or awareness-building.

The Justice and Peace calendar outlines dates and areas of emphasis to guide your advocacy throughout the year. Go to presbyterianwomen.org - search justice and peace where you can download the 2025 calendar. This January–December 2025 calendar notes dates for justice and peace awareness or action days, with links to websites with additional information and action suggestions.



DIY Paper Leaf Wreath

Make a fall wreath or garland for your autumn home decorations. Here's an easy Paper Wreath DIY that uses recycled paper bag leaves. You'll need a grocery store paper bag, scissors, glue, a grapevine wreath, and a white chalk pen, to name a few. Use a template or cookie cutters to outline the paper leaves on your paper bags. Cut. Mark the veins with a white chalk pen and use a hot glue gun to attach to your grapevine wreath.



Local Congregational Focus: Mission Projects at Trinity Presbyterian

By Carol Minton

This year Trinity has been busy! We are currently sponsoring two refugee families through the International Institute of Southwest Missouri, which “provides opportunities for immigrants and refugees to thrive”. Unfortunately they lost their nonprofit funding in January so the committee that serves as their community support liaison has been working overtime!

Members have been regularly providing meals for women at Safe to Sleep and for a veterans group. Volunteers have been working hard to update Trinity House at Eden Village for a new occupant.

We have monthly Crosslines food/supplies drive with regular volunteers and donations. Our Lydia Circle supports the “Wish I May”

ministry by donating to help families celebrate birthdays.

We have recently trained leaders for the John Calvin Living Waters of the World ministry as well as participants and general support for the program.

Our Knitting4Peace group has been keeping our items here in Springfield this year rather than sending them off to refugees elsewhere. Some of our refugees arrived here in mid winter without any items to keep them warm so we were happy to supply them and any other refugee family in need with scarves, hats and mittens.

After the hurricanes in the Southeast we joined other PW groups in the presbytery preparing buckets for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Our PW brunches in the summer and December have collected hygiene items for Care To Learn. We also sponsor the Mr. Rogers Sweater Drive in November.

We are thankful for our dedicated volunteers who lovingly care for others in so many ways!

Campfire Banana Splits by DeDe Vest

Ingredients

- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 (10.5 ounce) package miniature marshmallows

Directions

Preheat the grill for high heat.

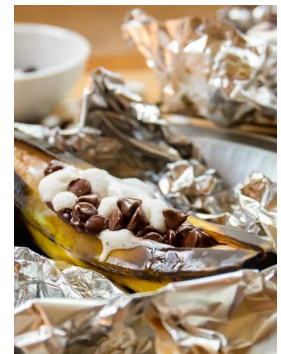
Spray 4 sheets of aluminum foil, large enough to wrap bananas, with cooking spray.

Slice the peel of the banana from stem to bottom, while slicing the banana inside lengthwise. The bananas can be cut into slices instead if you like, (while still in the peel) for easier handling later.

Carefully open the banana just wide enough to place the chocolate chips and marshmallows inside the peel with the banana. Stuff with as much of the chocolate chips and marshmallows as desired.

Wrap the bananas with the aluminum foil and place on the grill or directly in the coals of a fire. Leave in long enough to melt the chips and the marshmallows, about 5 minutes. Unwrap bananas, open the peels wide, and eat with a spoon.

(if you have vanilla or strawberry ice cream, it's great with a scoop on top!)



Synod Presbyterian Women Summer Gathering

By Toni Spieth
& DeDe Vest

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We had several JCP PW in attendance at the Synod PW meeting in Prairie Village, KS on August 2nd. There were three main workshops, which were all excellent.

There were 73 attendees including Ken Tilus with Presbyterian Children's Home and Services, PW Churchwide Moderator Pam Snyder, Moderator of Synod of Mid-America Presbyterian Women Mary Jorgensen and Synod Representative to PW Coordinating Team Mary Hoskins. All six Presbyteries were represented at this gathering.

First we heard from Susan Jackson-Dowd, the Executive Director of PW. She gave an overview of the 2025-2026 Bible Study. She is the final editor of the bible study and is part of the 4 year process of creating these. Not only that, but she has extensive history with

PW and her brain is an archive of PW activity through the years. I'm excited to start "Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ". This year's bible study is beautifully written, beautifully put together, and will give us a lot to think about and a lot to discuss.

Next, the PW Churchwide Moderator, Pam Snyder, gave a presentation on the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. She has been involved with the UNCSW for 18 years. The presentation was informative and inspirational. At the same time, it was disappointing. As Pam said, the UNCSW began in 2008 and it seems like the steps forward are small and slow. Pam would be a great speaker at any PW Gathering!

Last, but not least, our very own Toni Spieth and Tara Napoleone-

Clifford gave a presentation on RED Team, representing the Mid-America Synod. RED is PW Racial Equality Dialogue group, and is tasked with supporting the Matthew 25 Initiative by "building an inclusive, caring community" that "works for justice and peace" through dialogue as a tool for building relationships among and between women from different racial/ethnic groups and background. The presentation was informative and humorous. Good job Toni!

A short business meeting was held which revealed plans for a 2026 Synod Gathering, possibly in Branson. Presbyterian Women from JCP will be involved in coordinating details for this event. Information coming in a couple months.



Above, left to right: Mary Jorgensen; Rhoda Frasier Moderator of Northern KS Presbytery, the PW Leadership Coordinator for the Synod and wife of our new JCP Stated Clerk Rev. Bob Frasier; Pam Snyder and Susan Jackson-Dowd.



Presbyterian Women of John Calvin Presbytery

If you would like help accessing our Facebook page, contact our Secretary, DeDe Vest. You may email or call.


dede.vest@gmail.com

417-522-9166

If you would like to receive future newsletters direct to your inbox, please email Mary Lynne Grimes at bob-mary@tri-lakes.net

To find the latest news from national Presbyterian Women, sign up to receive PW NewsBytes. Go to the website at presbyterianwomen.org. Click on News and Events where there is a section on PW NewsBytes with instructions on how to receive it.

Presbyterian Women



- ❖ We welcome.
- ❖ We witness.
- ❖ We work (and play!).

Putting faith in action is what we do!

www.presbyterianwomen.org

Current Issue of Horizons Magazine

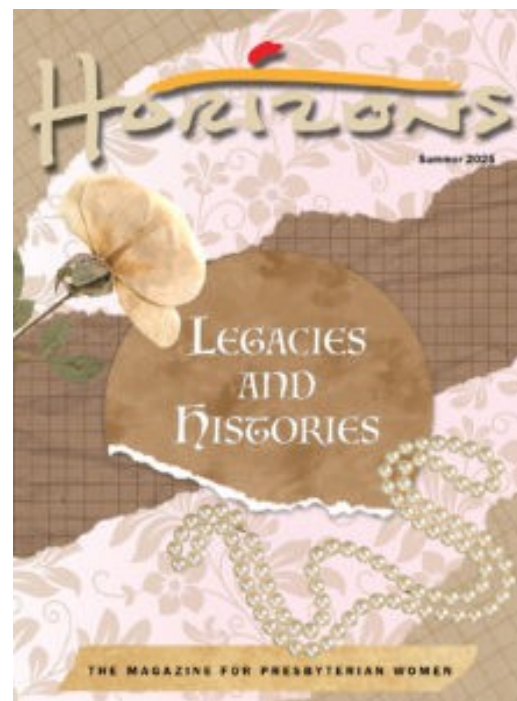
By Sharon Dunne Gillies, managing editor

To subscribe to Horizons Magazine, go to presbyterianwomen.org and click on Horizons Magazine.

This issue of Horizons examines histories and legacies. Let's revisit our shared stories, and consider anew what they tell us about who we've been and who we want to be. We will consider Bible stories—the way the story of God's love has been passed to us, and how we'll pass it to others. We'll celebrate the long history of women (including Presbyterian Women) as keepers of the history and sharers of the faith.

We'll reacquaint ourselves with PW's sister organizations that have committed themselves to growing in faith while maintaining strong cultural roots, and the richness they bring to PW.

We'll learn about how to keep our faith story and community meaningful for people with memory loss. And of course, we'll rejoice in all the ways that Presbyterian Women shares God's love with the world!



All Women Are Invited!

Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

Saturday, September 20, 2025

Co-hosted by Hillcrest Presbyterian and Gibson Chapel
Springfield, MO

"Behold I Am Doing A New Thing"



Who: All Women of John Calvin Presbytery
What: Annual Fall Gathering
When: Saturday, September 20, 2025
9:30 – 2 pm Lunch included.
Where: Hillcrest Presbyterian Church
818 East Norton Road – Springfield, MO
Why: Many of your friends will be there.
Make new friends from across the
Presbytery.
Great speakers – Mission project.
Learn about the blessings two
congregations have found
working together.
IT WILL BE FUN!!!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GATHERING

Laura Fleetwood – Spirituality in Women. Laura will talk with us and facilitate discussion on what it means to age spiritually. Spirituality provides a framework of support and connection and is a crucial tool for inner peace and wisdom. Learn how aging is a spiritual journey.

Local mission project: Hillcrest High School's Clothing Closet and Home and Food Pantry. Located just a couple minutes from the church, the school's clothing closet and food pantry serves a large number of students throughout the year, running dangerously close to empty at times. 80% of our offering will be donated to this project.

Hillcrest Presbyterian Elder Scarlet Cormack will speak on the meaning of the scripture guiding our gathering - Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way...."

REGISTER TODAY: Registration details are on the registration form.

Presbyterian Women in John Calvin Presbytery



Fall Gathering
Saturday, September 20, 2025
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



REGISTRATION FORM

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Host Church: Hillcrest and Gibson Chapel Presbyterian Churches
818 East Norton Road
Springfield, MO 65803

9:30 a.m. Registration, coffee, and light breakfast - fellowship hall
10:00 a.m. Meeting begins in Sanctuary

Mission Recipients:

Hillcrest High School Food & Home Pantry and The QFT (clothing closet)



3 ways to REGISTER (pick one):

Mail to: Hillcrest Presbyterian church
Attn: PW Gathering
818 East Norton Road
Springfield, MO 65803

Email - hillcrestchurch@gmail.com (subject line PW Fall Gathering)

Online - [Online Registration & Payment Link](#)

Lunch: \$15.00 (Please make checks out to Hillcrest Presbyterian)

ALL Registrations due by: September 7th

Questions: Call or text Scarlet Cormack - 812.786.5745

Join with your PWJCP sisters for a day of fellowship, learning, and fun!

Please cut and return with a check, OR submit the following information by e-mail

PWJCP Spring Gathering

NAME (Please print): _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

HOME CHURCH: _____

CITY: _____