

glad tidings

september 2020

The monthly Newsletter for Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Tampa Bay

Calendar:

Thursdays in Black - against violence

RED Fridays

Remember Everyone Deployed

Every 25th Wear Orange Day

To raise awareness about violence against women.

February 20, 2021 PWP

Annual Presbyterian Women's Gathering

Aug 5-8, 2021 Churchwide Gathering

Meet me in St. Louis, MO is still an option!
Start planning now – 11 months to go

Rejoice in Hope - the 2021 Gathering
has not been cancelled for August 2021.



Please pray we will soon discover or uncover the next leadership women so we can learn and plan for a smooth and logical transition. With a whole coordinating team, the work really is spread around. If you need job descriptions and expectations, just ask.

We are seeking a church to host us at our February 20, 2021 Annual Gathering. (Really, not as difficult as you think.) Let us know. We are optimistic about larger groups of people being safe to gather by then.

The past few years nearby churches have been helping with refreshments, etc.

SEPTEMBER

Most of us thought we would be starting our PW program year with circles this month. Those starting are truly blessed. Others are creating plans to “open up” again and may have a date in mind. Your presbytery coordinating team is here to help – just ask!

Are you completing projects? I found a tote bag with cross stitch projects from 20 years ago. It is sitting next to my TV chair – still thinking about which one to finish first.

The 2020 Thank Offering will be collected in the next couple of months and Cedarkirk is a recipient! Spread the word. Additional information may now be downloaded from the presbyterianwomen.org website.

What is your go-to-sleep system? I learned the LEGO prayer at a retreat years ago:
Pray for **L**oved ones, **E**nemies, **G**race and **G**uidance, **O**urself.

***I found this the other day:
each night remember something good,
something bad,
and something Godly from the day.
Amen.***

What the heck are the churches and PWs in my presbytery doing?

Notes from August 25 moderators' Zoom.

Virtual Worship – some full order of worship, some with only a message and a solo with an accompanist or their hand bell choir. No internet? There is a way to phone in.

Safe, in-person worship (20-30% of members attending) churches are sanitizing pews and keeping distances. **the sanctuary with chairs, not pews, is easily arranged for social distancing. This is working for small churches, but not for larger congregations.*

Zoom meetings for everything else at church. One challenge is not all members have internet access.

CT is meeting by Zoom or maybe combined some attending in person and some by zoom and looking for ways to have PW – many take the summer off normally and are ready to try something – anything.

CT is phoning their women. One (maybe more) pastor called every member in the beginning. Some have phone trees so members are called every 7-10 days by elders or deacons.

Some are emailing each other regularly.

While Most annual fall events have been cancelled, Forest Hills (historically holds a huge fall bazaar) ***has not been cancelled for October 2020.***

Churches are reaching out to homeless with food bags, clothing, etc.

The PW Thank Offering, Drop Your Drawers (Clothes for Kids), school supplies, and food donations are being collected by drop off at specific times – one church is handing out treat bags as a “thank you”.

How about a church picnic on the church grounds when it is safe to start meeting in person again?

One church remains a hurricane shelter for members with pets.

As September arrives and PWs are ready for Bible Study, a few pastors are doing a Zoom lesson and recording it so women can watch it at their convenience. One will split the lesson and do it in 2 sessions a month.

Many churches are losing tithes – have you sent yours in lately? Remember the building expenses and salaries continue. Do you have a creative way to collect the Birthday Offering, Thank Offering, Least Coin, or support Villa International (only 17 residents paying rent does not cover expenses) or Mission Haven – all units full with missionaries back in the states due to the pandemic.

One church's PW continued to meet since March via Zoom. How about a Zoom Brown Bag Lunch circle? The CT met in July & August! They have a greeting card drive for their local nursing homes and other facilities.

Sunday School by Zoom for adults and youth (at different times) and also youth group, women's circles, etc., and men's groups. VBS in a Box was a norm this summer.

A Wednesday prayer service on Messenger.

Food Pantries are being supported and used.

Churches have plans to return to "normal" – some since March, but most do not feel it is the right time yet.

The youth in one church raised \$1600 for Beth El selling their artwork to the congregation!

A small church has in-person worship and serves breakfast afterward – also an outreach to the local homeless. They provide toiletry bags once a month.

Large churches will have a very limited number of members at worship. One has been doing 2 services a week – traditional and contemporary – on-line to serve their members' preferences. They are discerning how they will return to in-person worship.

Interesting: PW is involved in every ministry – not just a stand-alone organization. How might we initiate this in each of our churches?

One church has installed Plexiglas shields in front of the podiums.

Offer as many programs and activities a possible virtual and in person so members can make their own decisions.

Pre-Schools are operating at maybe 75%.





Quarterly News

for Presbyterian Women Leaders

Download this resource at www.presbyterianwomen.org. Search "newsletter."

August–October 2020

Presbyterian Women/Horizons Bible Study

The summer of the (Bible study) webinar

By **Betsy Ensign-George**

We're calling this summer "The Summer of the Webinar"!

In June and July, four *Into the Light* introductory webinars were led by author Lynn Miller in English and one was led by translator Magdalena García in Spanish. In total, more than 1,000 women participated in the five webinars!

Women from Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, the U.S. (including Puerto Rico), and more, attended the Spanish-language webinar. And 25 women (and some of their daughters and granddaughters) had a "paint-along" with the author, Lynn Miller. She and Magdalena volunteered their time to teach us online. We thank them.

Staying in community remains key for PW. That's why two *Into the Light* Bible study resources are available in new formats! The nine video introductions by the author (7–11 minutes each) from the companion DVD are also now available as downloadable video files. The Spanish-language edition of the study is also available as a downloadable PDF. See ad on page 7.

Here is something you might not know: Our *Into the Light* author, Lynn Miller, has a superpower! Well, several! She is a talented writer, artist, pastor and teacher. (Did you know she designed the Honorary Life Membership pin?) Her other superpower is her desire to stay connected during our study. That's why she has just launched a blog series! The first post is available at www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible-study/into-the-light/. Bookmark that address, so you can come back regularly for new posts!

Look for additional resources at the same address: links to recordings of webinars; a playlist of songs mentioned in the study (as well as other music that helps us consider lament); a place to share the laments you write through the year; and a spot for other things you want to share. If something isn't there when you check, don't worry! We might be catching our breath for a second, but they're on the way!

Horizons magazine Bible study resources written by Joyce MacKichan Walker started in the July/August issue. Look for them! Subscribe at www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons-magazine/.

Be sure to check your email from PW! Ongoing and new things will be announced via email, so contact patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org to make sure you're on our email list. You won't want to miss a thing!

Finally, don't forget the future! We work on PW/*Horizons* studies all the time. Author recommendations are always welcome (they're like Bible study gold to us). Download the "Call for Proposals" from www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible-study/2021-call-for-proposals/.



Photo montage: Ylileman

Just a dozen of the hundreds of participants from around the country who joined the Bible study author Lynn Miller for an introductory webinar on the new *Into the Light* Bible study.

Thank you and God-speed to a board member and a staff member.



Kathy Terpstra, representative from the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board, rotated off in July.

Assistant editor and justice-and-peace staff specialist **Yvonne Hileman** is leaving at the end of August.



Thank you, Kathy and Yvonne. PW will miss you both!

Don't miss what's inside! • *Into the Light* Bible study news • Moderator's message • Thank Offering flier • PW justice calendar • "Say Their Names" antiracism statement • Special board meeting report • Marketplace • and lots more!

Presbyterian Women holds special board meeting

By Susan Jackson-Dowd (susan.jackson-dowd@pcusa.org)

The Presbyterian Women, Inc., Board of Directors met via Zoom on June 6, 2020, to consider several recommendations. The Board approved the following actions:

- Change the focus of one of three 2021 Churchwide Gathering gift card recipients from women's reproductive health in the St. Louis area to assisting families struggling with poverty in the St. Louis area.
- Increase the annual reimbursement for the PW CSW Advocate. The advocate is a volunteer who will manage PW's nongovernmental organization (NGO) status at the United Nations and assist with PW's participation in the annual Commission on the Status of Women.
- Report out Administration Committee actions between board meetings that allowed staff to apply for a Payroll Protection Plan Loan, part of the federal CARES Act, and to open a separate bank account to manage the loan.
- Approve the PW statement, "Say Their Names: Reaffirming Presbyterian Women's Stance on Racism." To read the statement, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/2020/06/05/say-their-names-reaffirming-presbyterian-womens-stance-against-racism/.

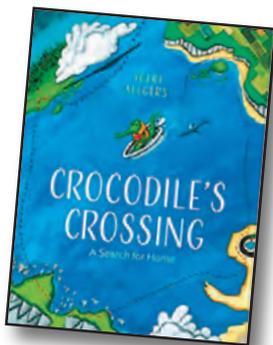
PW Church Partners

Flyaway Books offers resources for children

Children's literacy and faith and moral development are ongoing concerns for Presbyterian Women. Flyaway Books nurtures faith, builds confidence, and provides another resource for PW literacy efforts. Flyaway Books, an imprint of Westminster John Knox Press, is on the forefront of publishing truly delightful children's books with truly outstanding authors (including Carol Wehrheim, Amy-Jill Levine, Katherine Patterson) and illustrators on topics that are of consequence.

Recent and forthcoming titles

- *Brian the Brave*, written by Paul Stewart; illustrated by Jane Porter
- *Babbit and Joan, a Rabbit and a Phone*, written and illustrated by Denise Turu
- *Crocodile's Crossing: A Search for Home*, written and illustrated by Yoeri Slegers
- *For Beautiful Black Boys Who Believe in a Better World*, written by Michael W. Waters; illustrated by Keisha Morris (September 22 release)
- *A Very Big Problem*, written by Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso; illustrated by Annie Bowler



Enter for a chance to receive one of these titles

Physical distancing has challenged the ways we meet and do ministry. Tell us how you and your group or church are meeting these challenges. Mail your story to Carissa Herold, Presbyterian Women, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396 or email to carissa.herold@pcusa.org. Five randomly selected entries will receive one of the Flyaway Books titles mentioned above!

Include the following: 1) Your story; 2) Your name and complete mailing address; 3) Your telephone number and your email address. **Five random entries will receive one of these titles.**

Fabric "Fun"draiser!

Drumroll, please! Stitching Change, of Kansas City, Kansas, has been selected to provide the 2021 Churchwide Gathering tote bags. Through Stitching Change, refugee women learn a skill, earn an income, build confidence and flourish in community. And are they busy! They make shopping bags for the local farmer's market, various items for the Ten Thousand Villages store in Overland Park, and recently, have been focused on making masks. To date they have donated more than 900 masks.



Stitching Change strives to "create opportunities where women find real joy and energy in what they are doing." One of their joys is knowing that the handmade products that they craft are mostly from reclaimed or donated fabric. And this, dear Presbyterian women, is our joy, too!

Now through December 1, 2020, Southminster Presbyterian Church's PW group is accepting fabric and select notions (see specifics below) on behalf of Stitching Change from Presbyterian women throughout the U.S.!

Fabric and notion donation list

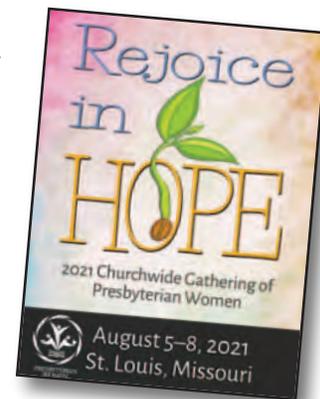
Minimum two yards of non-knit fabric; should be cotton blend or light cotton fabric. Gathering logo colors would be lovely.

- Thread: new or left-over (and newish) all-purpose or cotton thread (no quilting or embroidery)
- Elastic (for masks): ¼" elastic, all colors!

Ship donations to:
Presbyterian Women
c/o Southminster PC
6306 Roe Avenue
Prairie Village, KS 66208

Questions? Contact Mary Jorgensen, mcjorgies@gmail.com.

A favor: We would love to share your notes and photos from your PW groups with the Stitching Change artisans! Tuck them into your donation box or drop an email to Mary Jorgensen!



Quarterly newsletter easy to share as download

During this season of finding new ways to be in community and stewarding PW and Earth's resources in new ways, PW's national newsletter (published quarterly) has transitioned from a printed and mailed resource to one that is shared electronically. It is available on the PW website, with a link emailed to those on our email list. It is easy to forward, once downloaded, and is available in black-and-white and color versions for printing and posting or sharing in other ways. It has live links to resources and PWS/P/C newsletter editors are welcome to copy and paste in their newsletters. To be added to the national newsletter list and other PW mailings, contact patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org; 844/797-2872, ext. 8015.

PW in the PC(USA), Inc. reaffirms antiracist stance



“Jesus answered, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.’”—Luke 10:27

Presbyterian Women, Inc., reaffirms our commitment to dismantling institutional and structural racism, white supremacy, and white privilege following the recent and ongoing practice of police brutality and murders of people of color. We speak the names of recent victims while condemning the historic systemic racism that has caused the deaths and otherwise impeded the lives of so many of God's children.

Ahmaud Arbery • Breonna Taylor
Dreasjon (Sean) Reed • George Floyd

We encourage all Presbyterian Women to:

- recognize racism as sin and “opposite of what God intends for humanity”*
- dismantle white supremacy and privilege related to skin color
- confront the sins of injustice against people of color and work for justice
- end the criminalization of non-white skin
- hold police departments accountable for any and all employees who harass and/or terrorize communities of color
- interrupt policy and structures that promote systems of oppression
- challenge media messaging to ensure persons of color are not tried for their own murders (Trayvon Martin, Eric Garner, Sandra Bland, Michael Brown, and others), and
- build an inclusive, caring community.

Gracious God, we know you hear us, and we remember you said, “I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh” (Ezek. 11:19). We continue to pray for change of thinking, change in actions, and change in policies towards people of color—and we continue to pray for health and peace in the world.

The moderatorial team thanks Erma Jones, Presbyterian Women Search Committee Moderator, for her initiative and leadership in the preparation of this statement.

JyungIn (Jenny) Lee, moderator, PW, Inc.

Jo Ann Burrell, vice moderator, mission relationships

Joy Durrant, vice moderator, justice and peace concerns

*PC(USA). *Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community* (Louisville: Office of the General Assembly, PC(USA), 2016, 4.

See <http://ow.ly/ZgUg50zZYLv> for the full statement. See www.presbyterianwomen.org/antiracism for racial equity resources.

There is a seat here.

By JyungIn Lee



I live in New Jersey, about an hour away on the express train from New York City. In 2019, when I attended the UN Commission on the Status of Women, I decided to commute instead of paying the high price for accommodations near the UN. That meant getting home anywhere from 7 to 10 PM at night and getting on the 6:15 AM train every morning to be at the UN Church Center by 8 AM.

After getting on the train, my next challenge was getting a seat. Usually at this hour, everyone has their own row in the double deck train. People's heads are buried, the ears are plugged with earpieces and the eyes are glued to their cell phones.



Getty Images

There is a quiet vibe that suggests everyone wants to keep themselves in a compartment of privacy as long as they can, at least until the next station. I can usually find an empty row, where two seats are available side by side.

However, on this particular morning, I was not finding an empty row, even though I surveyed the entire car. I had to decide where I was going to sit, whom I would sit next to. It was a decision that would affect me for the next hour or so. Then, a young woman sitting not far from where I was standing in the aisle said to me, “Sit here,” and she patted the seat next to her. At that moment, I think my eyes opened wider and the corners of my lips touched my ears from smiling with relief and joy. She, a total stranger in a car full of unengaging passengers, spotted me looking for a seat and offered the seat next to her. What a wonderful feeling it was that morning. My heart swelled with gratitude.

That young woman changed my life that day on March 13, 2019. Her hospitality was gracious and contagious, and she was brave. She looked up to see me, spoke to me, invited me to sit next to her! From then on, I became a “seat crusader.” I became conscious of the people looking for a seat. Perhaps your life has also been profoundly changed by someone kind and thoughtful.

I think the lives of most of us have been impacted by what has been going on in this nation in recent months: the COVID-19 pandemic and the protests in response to police brutality against persons of color. I believe this moment in history asks us to reflect on our complicity in structural racism and “white advantage”—how seats have been taken away from people of color (POC).

This moment in history requires us as a collective body and as individuals to reckon with racism, to consider how each of us as individuals has contributed to the racism that silences POC and makes seats unequally available, even though there are seats to be had. I believe it is imperative now more than ever that we see the people who don't have a seat or who are looking for a seat and say, “There is a seat here.” There are plenty of seats in God's household.

Vice Moderator's Message

By Jo Ann Burrell, *Mission Relationships*

Dear Sisters,

We are still in the grip of difficult times, but remember, "this too will pass." Our world, our country has gone through many difficult times, and we have come through them. It might take a few years, but we will persevere. Hebrews 12:1-2 talks about running with perseverance the race that is set before us. We are Presbyterian Women, so we know how to run, especially with perseverance. Give us a reason, give us a cause, we will run. Let's go, PW women!

While staying in, I have come to appreciate my backyard. I have never liked my backyard. It has always looked blah even when I tried to spruce it up. The concrete patio is now cracked; the space where there was an above-ground pool has weeds, not grass (now I regret taking the pool down!); the white vinyl fence is always dingy no matter how much I scrub it, and it is leaning on one end ("fixed" a number of times to no avail). My husband has too many grills. Five grills (two charcoal, three propane) are just too many. Ricky thinks he is going to grill every evening. Now that global warming has changed the weather, we have rain most evenings. So much for his grill plans! We have three seating areas and two table seating areas, none of which match.

But, suddenly, I see my backyard in a different light. There are no cracks, no weeds, no dingy fence, nothing is mismatched. Ricky's many grills no longer haunt me. My yard is quiet. It is comfortable. It is relaxing, and I get lots of fresh air out there. Two dogs are now permanent residents at my house. They run in and out of the house, jump, play with toys and chase chipmunks in the yard. I hear all kinds of bird sounds. I recognize the sounds of the downy-woodpecker, the red-bellied woodpecker and the barn owl. Other birds are hiding in my trees and sing sweet songs to me morning, noon, evening and night. For the first time, I saw a female cardinal (we see male cardinals all the time). She had a red tipped crest, red wings, bright olive breast, black around her eyes and a red bill. A common grackle (big blackbird) sat on my fence, quacking at me. I am still hoping to see a scarlet tanager, and an indigo bunting before summer says goodbye. God sent these sweet creatures to my yard to give me a smile, and to reassure me that we are going to be all right. The difficult times will pass. God wants me to enjoy all that is around me right now.

The gate was accidentally left open, and a red fox played in the yard for a while. When I opened the door, he/she scurried out. Two large brown northern cottontails came in, nibbled in the grass, and got out before the gate was closed. The woods around my house are lush, green, and the trees seem happy. I really like my backyard now. I have changed nothing in my yard, but I have changed. I opened my eyes and my heart to seeing and listening for God. God answered me with the sights and sounds of God's designs. I know God is near!

Persevere alongside those around you—loved ones, family, friends. Help, acknowledge and pray for all. Support your organization, PW, with your Annual Fund/Mission Pledge, and listen for the sounds of God around you.

Blessings.



Working for Justice and Peace

Advocacy at the global and national levels

PW chooses UN advocate

Former PW board member **Magdalene Lewis**, Synod of the Northeast, has been appointed PW's ECOSOC and CSW Advocate at the United Nations. PW participates in the annual UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) as an NGO recognized by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Magdalene will serve in this volunteer position through June 1, 2022.



100th anniversary of women's suffrage

One hundred years ago, on August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was finally ratified, declaring for the first time that women deserve all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the right to vote. However, restrictive state and local laws still prevented women of color from voting. It took 45 more years before the Voting Rights Act was passed, August 6, 1965. This was "the civil rights law that John Lewis was willing to die for," NAACP President Derrick Jones says, adding: "Current challenges to voting are as daunting as they come" (*Politico*, August 6, 2020). He says, "We should use this anniversary to double down on fulfilling its promise of participatory democracy." See <https://politi.co/3hg9eVh>.

Ecumenical Women promoting Thursdays in Black

Ecumenical Women at the UN promotes women's empowerment, women's rights and gender equality all over the world. Fresh off their 10th anniversary, they are raising awareness of violence against women especially during the COVID19 pandemic. They are asking us to make a pledge to support and advocate for those who experience rape and other violence at www.ecumenicalwomenun.org/thursdays-in-black. PW's Joy Durrant is in the video at <https://youtu.be/qhIrcVTixtc>.

Justice and Peace Calendar (see presbyterianwomen.org/justice)

November

Native American Heritage Month

- 8 Caregiver Sunday
- 13 World Kindness Day
- 15 Hunger and Homelessness Sunday
- 20 Universal Children's Day
- 25 Int'l Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- 25-D.10 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence
- 28 Thanksgiving Day

December

- 1 World AIDS Day; Giving Tuesday
- 5 International Volunteer Day
- 10 International Human Rights Day
- 10-14 National Gun Violence Prevention Sabbath Weekend
- 18 International Migrants Day
- 25 Christmas; Orange Day

January

- National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month
- 10-16 PW Together in Action Days to End Human Trafficking
- 11 National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 17 Race Relations Sunday
- 17 Criminal Justice Sunday
- 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 18-24 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Remember, every Thursday is an opportunity to participate in Thursdays in Black. See www.oikoumene.org/en/get-involved.

Honorary Life Membership program suggestions for times like these

By Carissa Herold

One needn't look far to find some very good news and that is the good news of Presbyterian Women's Honorary Life Membership program. Almost 1000 were honored in 2019 and even though 2020 is a bit of an unusual year for, well, just about everything we do, a mid-year peek suggests that almost as many will be honored this year as well. Celebrating faithful service needn't pause. Funds derived from Honorary Life Memberships support the PW Leadership Development Grant Program and, as importantly, celebrate the commitment of women (and a few men!) who choose to live in discipleship.



2015 Gathering Chair Shelda Wills is presented with an Honorary Life Membership by Theresa Underwood at the Churchwide Gathering in 2015.

2020 has asked us to do things in new ways. And this may include how (not if!) we participate in PW's HLM program. But, first, a bit of housekeeping! Jung Ju Winner administers the HLM program (jung.winner@pcusa.org; telephone 844/797-2872, ext. 5389). Please reach out to her with your questions. She advises:

- Setting a particular date to honor your honoree may be difficult to set in stone. Unless you and your group are committed to a particular date, then please consider "2020" or "Fall 2020" for the date line of your honoree's HLM certificate.
- Each year's HLM recipients are listed in the following March/April issue of *Horizons* magazine. (If an HLM is applied for but not presented to the recipient this year, please note that her name may still appear in the magazine for this year.)

- Consider applying for an HLM certificate on line. Doing so is immediate and won't go astray in the mail.
- Mother's Day and the winter holidays (beginning with Thanksgiving) are popular HLM days. Please submit your application as early as possible.



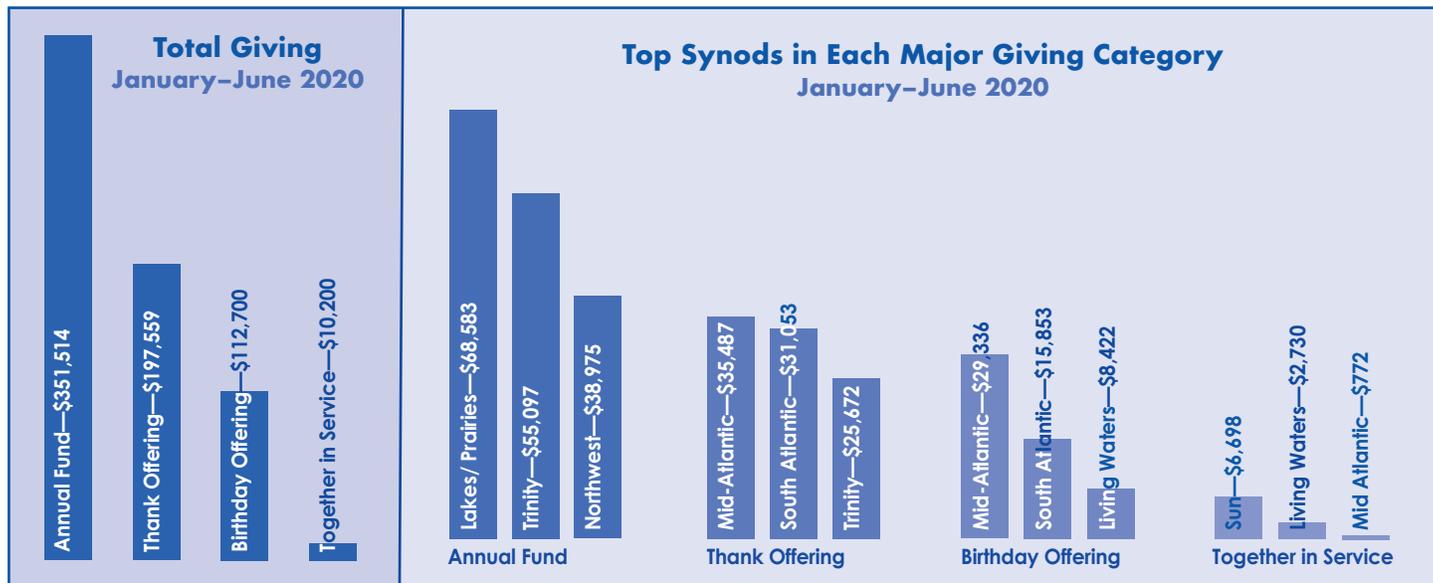
Now, let's consider new ways to honor honorees! Don't be discouraged if your circle or church isn't meeting in the "traditional" way. Here are a few ideas to consider:

- Honor your HLM recipient virtually. Many groups are using Zoom! Tweak the HLM service to fit your need or perhaps come up with a new idea—a poem, a song, or perhaps a skit!
- Do a drive by! Arrange to honor your recipient with a parade of cars, driving by her home at a designated time. Place a "congratulations" banner in her yard or a plastic flamingo with an HLM ribbon! Download an HLM sign, perfect for yards, porches or windows. Search "Honorary Life" at www.presbyterianwomen.org.
- Meet in your church parking lot, fellowship hall, or on a large porch—just remember to keep physically distant.

*Presbyterian women, we are clever! Have an idea that you would like to share about how you are doing circle or honoring your HLMs? Let us know! Pictures are most welcome, too!

PW's 2019 annual report now available

Presbyterian Women annual report celebrates how we, generous and steadfast Presbyterian women, participated in PW's many ministries in 2019. Share this downloadable report, available at www.presbyterianwomen.org (search "annual report"), and rejoice that Presbyterian Women remains impactful, vital, and necessary "for the good of all."



Don't miss PW's Churchwide Gathering e-blast series. Email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org to be sure you are on PW's email list.

Supporting the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women, one *Horizons* reader at a time!

Horizons is the magazine and Bible study by and for Presbyterian women! New readers, seasoned readers and givers of gifts can add extra \$\$ over and above the subscription price to lend support to the publishing mission of Presbyterian Women. Choose to donate each time you renew, subscribe or give a gift subscription. You may also give a tax-deductible gift by sending a check payable to "Presbyterian Women" with "publishing mission" in the notes line of the

check. Mail to Presbyterian Women, Remittance Processing—Giving, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652. Or give on line by visiting the PW website (presbyterianwomen.org); select "Giving and Funding" from the drop-down menu, then choose "Publishing Ministry." This list reflects gifts sent with *Horizons* magazine subscriptions and renewals from April 1 through June 30, 2020. Many have generously given to other ministries of PW but are not listed below.

Amy L. Anderson
Cynthia Avery
Elizabeth Ayisah
Jan Beekman
Mary Bender
Jane Bishop
Gail P. Blackmer
Sue Bohmer
M. Victoria Bowes
Rachel Bowron
Patti Bright
Anne Bromby
Edith Brooks
Bernice Brown
Joyce Carter
Tisa Cheney
Joan Clark
Christine D. Cloer
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Marcia Dollerschell
Lois Edgcomb
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Joan Hackett
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Nancy Holve
Eunice Hopper
Maryann Hopson
Peggy Horner
Karen Summerville
Hubbard
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Cherie James
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Elise Jones
Jeanette Karjala

Anne Kenderes
Jerena Keys
Choon Kim
Ann Kindred
Carol Kinsman
Mary Ellen Kirby
Eleanor Kirlin
Nancy Kluge
Beth Kochheiser
Paula Launtz
Debbie Law
Lea Lawrence-Moiso
Carol Lowe
Jean Luker
Mary Beth Lysobey
Rochelle Mackey
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Kay Neller
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Susan K. Nevins
D. K. Norvell
Loisann Furgess Oler
Marilyn J. Olson
Jimmie N. Pearson
Aserelene P. Pickett
Jacquelyn Pinkowski
Janice Pottenger
Presbytery of WV
Resource Center
Joan Quinzer
Janet Rainey
Patricia Rehm
Noreen Robinson
Ruby Rogers
Lee Chadwick Russell
Marnie Abraham Russell
Pam Saltmarsh
Rosie Sanislo
Eleanor Schneider
Virginia Shirey
Pamela Shriver
Zeta Sistare

Ruth Smith
Frances D. Spicer
Deanna M. Stults
Joyce Summers
Celia J. Taylor
Brenda Thomas
Laura Thompson
Barbara Triem
Theresa L. Underwood
Martha Ussery
Marilyn Vellenga
Barbara Wada
Cordia Wallace
Elizabeth Walters
Lindalee Walters
Margaret Washnitzer
Jean White
Janice T. Wieland
Judy Wilkinson
Women's Guild, FPC,
Hackensack, NJ
Linda H. Worden
Eleanor K. Wright
Donna Young
Betty Ann Yurkewitch
Rosaleen Zisch

Cultivating Presbyterian Women



Spring and summer gatherings are typically times for us to gather, be in community, worship and study scripture. You can find us at Massanetta Springs Conference Center in Virginia or Second Presbyterian in Louisville. Or perhaps in Texas or Puerto Rico, California or Florida, Iowa or New York. Wherever we call home, we mark our calendars during wintry days for summer gatherings. A highlight for many of us who choose to attend a regional gathering is to learn about our upcoming *Horizons* Bible study; sometimes even the study's author provides our introduction. So what does this have to do with Stewardship? Well, quite a bit!

Presbyterian Women's Annual Fund, often referred to as the Mission Pledge, touches gatherings and Bible studies and just about everything we do as a PW community—yes, even community. Gifts shared in circle or individually support the ministry of the organization at all levels—from local gatherings and regional mission to administering our national (and global) Thank Offering grants. Our *Horizons* magazine and Bible studies are available, in part, because we subscribe and purchase to participate, but as individuals we are insulated from the full cost as PW's Annual Fund undergirds the costs of this work.

And even when the world shifts dramatically, our Annual Fund provides support for making new ideas possible. For example, during these days of physical (not social!) distancing, gathering in person pivoted to gathering online. (Zoom has become a new tool for so many during these

days—it's worth noting that Presbyterian Women through the synods provided grants for establishing Zoom well before COVID.) Our PW/*Horizons* Bible study (also supported in part by gifts to the Annual Fund) author is often invited to our gatherings to introduce the study and to walk with us as we strive to deepen our understanding of scripture. But even during these temporary days of staying home to stay safe, our Annual Fund has provided a way for us to virtually gather to hear from our Bible study author.

2020 is a year of change and challenge so please remember PW's ministries continue and bless even during unsettled times. We encourage you to support PW through participation and financial support, and we urge you to encourage your sisters in faith to support PW, too.

No matter how you choose to give to Presbyterian Women, your support helps sustain PW's work of carrying out God's call to mission and ministry, locally and globally.

- Give in your circle or give securely at www.presbyterianwomen.org/give.
- Send checks or gifts from your financial institution or donor-advised fund, or employee-matched donations by mail to PW, Inc., PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652.

Questions? Contact Rhonda Martin at 502/569-5596.

THANK YOU to all who gave on PW Gives Day, July 31! If you missed it, no worries! You can still make a gift on line or by mail (note PWGDAY20 in the memo line of your check).

PW Marketplace*

Spanish-language Bible study *Hacia la luz* now available

The Spanish-language edition of the *Into the Light* Bible study (*Hacia la luz: esperanza en las oraciones de lamento*, translated by Magdalena I. García) is available from the PW Shop (item HZN20110). Simply visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop to place your order. If your books are to ship to Puerto Rico, then select this option under the Country/Region drop-down menu. And do ensure that your billing address information is "just so" to ensure smooth sailing! Orders bound for Puerto Rico through the PW Shop are subsidized in part by PW's Annual Fund. Why? Although shipping costs have increased across the board, shipping costs to Puerto Rico have skyrocketed. (Building and sustaining our PW community would not be possible without circle and individual financial support of PW's Annual Fund.) Finally, know that you may order a PDF version of the Spanish study, easily downloadable and save shipping! Item HZN20111, \$10.



Smile when you use Amazon!

Visit smile.amazon.com and select Presbyterian Women as your favorite charitable organization. Shop as you normally would; a portion of your purchase from AmazonSmile goes to PW.



Thank Offering coin boxes

Although COVID-19 is changing the way we worship and work, it's worth remembering that PW and PW's Thank Offering have sustained ministries even during earlier difficult days and years. When you or your group orders 2020 Thank Offering resources, consider adding a pack or two of the Thank Offering coin boxes. The boxes are available in packs of 10 and are free! Feeling crafty? If so, embellish the boxes, perhaps making this an activity for your group! PWR07482, free.

* To order PW resources, call 800/533-4371 (M-F, 9 AM-5 PM, EST) or go to www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.

Horizons Reps' Corner

Dear Horizons Reps,

Although in-person gatherings are mostly discouraged at this time, promoting *Horizons* is encouraged! Instead of delivering a message from a podium, send an email. Meeting via Zoom? Share your *Horizons* message! Have a telephone number? Send a text! Have stamps and fun stationery? Send an "old-fashioned" letter. Here's an idea to consider: Extend a promotional message in person via a porch delivery. Share a favorite article or two with an order form, include a sweet message and sweet treat or a tea bag, and there you are! During this time of social distancing, what's more welcome than a note of hello and a magazine brimming with ideas and ministries and community?

Horizons offer for new readers still stands!

Send your list of potential new *Horizons* magazine readers to Carissa Herold and she'll see that they receive three free issues of *Horizons* (just the magazine, not the Bible study). Email your list to carissa.herold@pcusa.org; or mail to Carissa Herold, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396.



Horizons
THE MAGAZINE FOR PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Best deal ever: \$9.95
You SAVE \$15.00 (60%)!

Get Horizons at a great price:
This special introductory offer includes a one-year print subscription for just \$9.95 — that's 60% off the regular \$24.95 subscription!

Plus, your all-access subscription includes **FREE** access to the digital edition.
This offer does not include the annual Bible study.

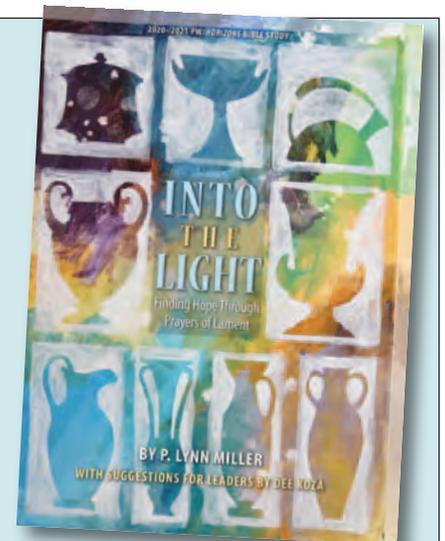
Order online at: is.gd/horizons0995

2020–2021 Horizons Bible study *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament* now available for order

The 2020–2021 PW/*Horizons* Bible study (art and text by Lynn Miller, *Suggestions for Leaders* by Dee Koza), revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world. One of the foundational points of the study is that, in scripture, lament usually leads to hope. After crying out to God, the one who laments remembers God. And while that doesn't fix things in the moment—the injustice, the loss still exist—the lamenter is strengthened to face the world and to hope. For us, hope is not just an emotional response or "pie in the sky." Hope implies movement: both God's inherent movement toward justice and our movement toward God. Recovering lament may be one of the church's most timely gifts to the world.

Order the study and most supplementary materials by going to presbyterian.women.org/shop or calling 800/533-4371. Free downloads may be found at www.presbyterianwomen.org/bible.

- English—HZN20100, \$10
- Spanish, print—HZN20110, \$10
- Spanish, pdf—HZN20111, \$10
- Large-print—HZN20150, \$15
- Ecumenical—HZN20102, \$10
- Audio—download only, HZN20172, \$15
- Companion DVD—HZN20103, \$20
- Companion DVD as download—HZN20104, \$20
- Workshop—HZN20101; free in print; also available as a free download
- Pendant—HZN20300, \$10
- Bulletin cover—free download only



Subscribe to *Horizons* magazine by April 1, 2021, to receive 2021–2022 study free with your subscription. Call toll-free 866/802-3635. And don't miss the "Building Buzz" email series. Email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org to get on PW's email list.

Thank Offering

2020



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(USA)

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

*Do not worry
about anything,
but in everything
by prayer
and supplication
with thanksgiving
let your requests
be made known
to God.
And the peace
of God,
which surpasses
all understanding,
will guard
your hearts
and your minds
in Christ Jesus.*

—Philippians 4:6-7*

*New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission.

Thank Offering ²⁰²⁰ OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



In February 2020, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women met to review applications for Thank Offering grants. Fifteen of the projects were chosen for funding. More than 40 percent of the projects funded are health ministries. For a list of this year's recipients, visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank. Please give so that more Thank Offering grants can be awarded next year, and promote the 2020 offering using the available resources.

Resources for Promoting the Thank Offering

Essentials

Available as a download, as well! The **2020 Thank Offering promotional booklet**, which is routinely mailed to all PC(USA) congregations and PW leaders, includes grant recipient summaries; a dedication service; a greeting from the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women; ideas to promote and support the Thank Offering; a poster/placemat; and promotional resource flier. Item PWR20475; free.

2020 Thank Offering Korean- and Spanish-language promotional booklets are available on line. Free.

The 11" x 17" **2020 Thank Offering poster/placemat** is versatile: use side one as a poster suitable for bulletin boards and trifolds; use side two as a placemat for dinners and tabletops. Available as singles so order as needed (limit 150)! Item PWR20473; free.

Receiving the Offering

Thank Offering group giving envelopes, traditionally used in PW circles and congregations, are available in packs of 25. Item PWR16479; free.

Individual giving envelopes are PW's "multipurpose" envelopes! These #10 green envelopes include an attached slip that allows an individual (or group) to choose where to direct her gifts as well as an area for credit card information. Available in packs of 10; item PWR20456; free.

2020 Thank Offering bulletin insert (one design)—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2020 Thank Offering bulletin cover (8½" x 11")—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2020 Thank Offering resource flier—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2020 Thank Offering promotional video (English, Spanish and Korean)—Available on PW's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

More to Explore!

The **July/August 2020 issue of Horizons magazine** includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Available to order July 2020; item HZN20230, \$4.00.

(Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons to subscribe!)

Coin/bill boxes, available in packs of 10. Item PWR07482; free

Ordering is Easy!

- Shop on line at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.
- Or call 800/533-4371, Monday–Friday, 9 AM–5 PM EST.

Note: Thank Offering promotional materials are shipped free of charge. Shipping charges for other resources are based on weight of order (\$5.91 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico may incur additional shipping charges. Prices and availability may change without notice.



Mission Haven Updates – August 2020

BACK TO SCHOOL: Learning Remotely

This year, back to school in Decatur means learning remotely. High schoolers from the **McGill** and **Dimmock** families are sharing dedicated space in our Meeting Room (the basement level of the house at 167 Inman Drive) where they can focus on learning without distractions. We are pleased to have this option for our students. Our residents are so grateful to the donors of furniture!



GRATITUDE: Spreading Wood Chips



Two local volunteers, Rick Adle and Ken McMillan, brought personal equipment to distribute the mountain of wood chips we acquired from fallen trees in the April storm. This is our next step to address storm drainage issues behind the houses. We are indebted to these men who generously share their time and talents with Mission Haven.

VIDEO: Virtual Meetings

Share our video <https://vimeo.com/161227648> during your next virtual meeting. It is a great way to introduce our ministry and to remind folks about who we are and what we do.



Housing ~ Hospitality ~ Clothing ~ Prayer



During this period of racial tension, a PW sent these from her Northern church. The Voices of Ghana meet her congregation.

Many of our churches are not very diverse - may be income, education, hopefully by age, not much by race.



Synod of South Atlantic PW August 2020 Savvy

On the Road to Hope - The Intersection of the Confederacy and Black Lives Matter

Sadly, my story is not unique. It is only one of millions. However, to my family, the fact that so many others can share similar revelations gives rise to a range of emotions—from resigned acceptance to perpetual inner rage.

In Raleigh, North Carolina, Confederate Memorial Services are held each year in observance of Confederate Memorial Day, May 10th. Set in Historic Oakwood Cemetery, the services held within the purview of a memorial wall commemorate the heroism of soldiers and sailors of the Confederate States Army and Navy buried there. Although the cemetery itself was founded in 1869, its Memorial Wall was erected June 3, 1931 by the General James Johnston Pettigrew Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Raleigh, North Carolina and dedicated, September 27th of the same year.

“Commemorative Landscapes of North Carolina” produced by the University of North Carolina, offers a description of the wall’s dedication and unveiling:

“As the sun set on the evening of September 27, 1931, with a large crowd present and banners flying and a band playing, the Memorial Brick Wall and Tablet were presented to the state of North Carolina. J.J. Blair made the presentation speech and State Auditor Baxter Durham accepted on behalf of the state. Draped with state and Confederate flags, the plaque was unveiled by Ben King of the Raleigh Soldier’s Home and Alfred Williams, 3rd great-grandson of General Bryan Grimes.”

General Grimes was not only Alfred’s great-grandfather, he was also my great-grand uncle. The story goes that in 1861, realizing that his Southern way of life was being threatened by Northern abolitionist influencers, General Grimes left his plantation to join the fight for states’ rights and an economic system he deemed vital. The fact that this system was built upon the backs of kidnapped and enslaved Africans was of no consequence to him. As a confederate officer, he fought in all the major battles with such infamous generals as Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee. However, while commanding the 4th North Carolina Infantry which became part of the Army of Northern Virginia, his military career ended when he surrendered with General Lee at Appomattox in 1865.

Bryan and his older brother, William, my great-grandfather, grew up on their father’s plantation, Grimesland, located approximately 100 miles south east of Raleigh where black men and black women were subjected to the inhumanity of slavery. As was too often the case with some slave owners, William impregnated Tensie, a woman who had been born into slavery and who had not been given a last name. More likely than not, William had raped her. Whether Tensie was physically, psychologically, and economically freed in 1865 with the passing of the Thirteenth Amendment which ended slavery, I do not know. However, as a result of their relationship, my grandfather, Columbus Grimes, described on his certificate of birth as a mulatto, was born in 1870 not into his father’s world of white privilege, but rather into his mother’s black world of racism, marginalization and scorn even though he bore his father’s last name.

As the lineage of Columbus Grimes grew, it could still be viewed through the historic lens of racial subjugation. With other black families, we survived the difficult journey through Reconstruction and degrading Jim Crow Laws, which enforced segregation and fueled lynching and other acts of hate by white supremacists such as the Ku Klux Klan. Yet led by faith, with hope for justice and equal treatment, we continued through Racial Desegregation to the Civil and Voting Rights Struggles. Finally, when we reached the election of America's First African American President in 2008, we thought we had reached our destination, the place where the children of former slaves and former slave owners respected each another and lived together in peace. However, the reaction to Obama's presidency was anything but peaceful. Our nation experienced a backlash which highlighted the resurgence of hate groups and hateful acts, racial targeting, and police brutality within the structure of systemic racism. The Black Lives Matter Movement became our response.

My family's history was researched over several years by my older brother, Dr. William T. Grimes, who passed recently. Tom left us a clear view of our past with the hope that we would honor the strength of our ancestors by building upon "what was" so that we might make our "what will be" greater than our "what has been."

Today, as I think about my four-year-old grandson, I pray for his "what will be." He is cute; he is smart; he is loving and filled with joy. This little brown boy deserves to be embraced by the world, held in high esteem, judged by his character, and nurtured with love and respect. Yet, I fear that he is only one of many who innocently go about their life journeys, expecting to be treated fairly, totally unaware of the perils that lay along their way.

Driven by hope toward more hopeful circumstances, African Americans persevere. Racially diverse protesters in cities throughout our nation and around the world echo, "Black Lives Matter," shining a light on the anti-black and brown bigotry which continues to hinder our progress. It is not that our lives are more important than others; our proclamation is that our lives are as important as any. When the civil rights icon, John Lewis, was laid to rest with accolades for his life's work, his own pre-recorded message to our Black Lives Matter youth urged them to continue the fight for justice and respect for human dignity. More recently, as we witnessed Kamala Harris, the first woman of color, being added to a major political party's presidential ticket, we are inspired to believe once again, that racial equality is in sight.

Christian women are called to help eradicate the racist system which has informed our psyche and penetrated our culture since the 1600's. Learning the unadulterated history of events which have shaped all our lives is essential to understanding how formidable the sin of not loving our neighbors as ourselves really is. We are called to be comfortable with having uncomfortable conversations--conversations which help us understand one another. We are called to acknowledge that each of us—yellow, brown, black or white—was created in our Maker's own image and born into circumstances beyond our control. We are required as the Prophet Micah explained, "To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your (our) God."

Janice Grimes Lewis (a.k.a. Jan Lewis)
Racial Equity Member At Large
Presbyterian Women
Synod of South Atlantic