

PREMIER ISSUE

PWHP e-CONNECTION or ACCESS or name to be determined! What's your vote?

June 1, 2010

At last! Here's your first PWHP (that's Presbyterian Women in Heartland Presbytery) monthly e-CONNECTION. Now you'll be in on what Presbyterian Women are about, what we're up to, and what's on the horizon. Look for news of PW events that have occurred, announcements of PW events that are coming up, a monthly meditation/reflection, and, if you'll join in, a prayer list, ideas of books to read, mission projects, and ways to connect. Our hope is that you will connect with us. Send your articles, questions and requests to pnitsche@kc.rr.com by the 20th of the month so that we can share your great ideas and activities, your questions, joys and concerns with the rest of the PW in HP, making this a forum and a conversation that connects all of us. We'd love your advice on how to make this newsletter useful to you. And we welcome your advice on how best to include the women who aren't connected electronically.

Check out our PWHP link on the Heartland Presbytery

website, <http://heartlandpby.org/RelatedLinks/PW/catpage.htm>. The forms and links have been updated. Please reply with corrections.

It was a joy to be a part of the **Spring Gathering and Festival of Peacemaking** at Village Church on April 24. We accomplished much in our brief business meeting. The budget (about the same as last year) was presented. Chelly King announced changes to the by-laws that enable the combination of various offices (so that, for instance, Chelly King is both Search chairperson and *Horizons* Representative; and Janet Kelley is both the Mission-Giving and Operating Budget Treasurer). Term limits are now extendable (so that, for instance, Charlotte Dollar may continue to be an at-large member of the Coordinating Team). Also the title 'Cluster Leader' is gone. Instead, 'Communicators' will call and otherwise communicate with women/churches around the presbytery to make sure that we remain a connectional organization in action as well as theory. Glenda Watts, Pam Nitsche and Kilhwan Chae were installed as Co-Moderator, Membership/Newsletter, and Racial-Ethnic Rep, respectively. Our organization name has been changed to Presbyterian Women in Heartland Presbytery (PWHP), where PW comes first!

Byron Wade, the Vice-Moderator of General Assembly, was a dynamic key-noter. He spoke to the denomination's joys and concerns. His energy and enthusiasm were hugely encouraging.

Doris Knight reports that the Spring Gathering offering of \$707.00, has been distributed: \$353.50 was sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for Haiti as requested by Village Presbyterian Church; \$176.75 was given to the Interfaith Hospitality Network through Dee Zak and \$176.75 was deposited in the Leadership/Scholarship Fund for PWHP.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE PW SYNOD OF MID-AMERICA GATHERING AND THE HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY

WORKSHOP! We are so blessed that Village Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, has once again invited the PW of the entire synod to attend the writer's own workshop. The workshop will be led by gifted minister and teacher, Rev. Louise Lawson Johnson, the author of Suggestions for Leaders for this Bible study, *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*, by Barbara Rossing. Date: Saturday, June 26, 2010, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Cost \$15 (includes lunch). Get the form at <http://www.villageyouth.com/pw/Welcome.html>. It is to be returned with payment by Thursday, June 17, 2010, to Diane Cassity, PO Box 8050, Prairie Village, KS 66208 Questions? Call Diane at (913) 671-2390.

The **Synod of Mid-America PW Gathering**, "PW on Purpose," will conveniently precede the Bible study on Friday, June 25, 2010, registration beginning at 12:30 at Southminster Presbyterian, 6306 Roe Ave. Check out the registration flyer at <http://synodma.org/PWGathering%20Flyer.pdf>. PWSMA, led by Renee Neff-Clark, is moving in an exciting new direction, which will especially appeal to women of action. We're particularly excited about the hands-on workshop at Cherith Brook, and we hope that your high school- and college-age kids/grandkids will join you in this experience. (Do you have a 7-passenger van we can use?) The dual events are early this year, June 25 and 26, rather than in August.

Blessings,

Gail Cunningham, PWHP Co-Moderator

Joys & Concerns:

Charlotte Dollar -- Charlotte has a broken wrist from a fall she had at home while awaiting shoulder surgery. :(She is at Village Shalom, 5500 West 123rd St, Overland Park, KS 66209 in Room H 220. Her room phone # is (913) 266-8121. Her cell phone # is (913) 634-5675. She looks good and as long as the pain medicine comes when scheduled, she can manage, "Hi" to all.

June Meditation by Rev Glenda Watts, Co-Moderator PWHP:

Sisters in Spirit (women who have made a difference in my spiritual journey)

Scripture: Genesis 1:26-27; Isaiah 49:14-16; Matthew 23:36-38

Reflection:

I was perfectly happy with God the Father and I still am, but something happened about 30 years after I joined the Presbyterian Church. I stumbled upon a book in the public library with the title, *When God Was a Woman*, by Merlin Stone, a sculptor and art historian. I was fascinated and had one of those "aha!" moments when it occurred to me that God could also be Mother. If God doesn't have gender, then why God was always referred to as "He" and "Father". Why not "She" and "Mother"? My image of God has been enriched and broadened and deepened as I spend time with the God who is beyond images. I understand better now God's response to Moses: "Tell them 'I AM WHO I AM' sent you."

Prayer:

Mother and Father God, you are so much more than our mere words can express. I imagine you don't care what we call you as long as we call you -- to be a part of our lives. Thank you for loving and caring for us as a mother and father cares for their beloved children. Amen.

Ideas, Activities, Sharing:

Check out the link on the PWHP website to give feedback on where you would like your mission dollars to go:
<http://heartlandpby.org/RelatedLinks/PW/files/MissionIdeaForm.doc>

June Book Review by Judy Klamm:

A recent book that is worthwhile reading is *Half the Sky* by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Women in many areas of the world face hardships and conditions foreign to Middle America. This book examines several issues such as sexual trafficking, maternal health problems along with issues of equality and economic challenges faced by women in the third world. While the stories in the book are heartbreaking the authors share tales of individuals and groups that are making a difference for women who are the poorest of the poor. Education is key to giving women a brighter future to help themselves and their families. Challenge yourself to read this book and come up with small steps to help sisters around the world.

Coming Soon:

2010 PWHP Yearbook -- a go-to resource for PW in the Heartland

Upcoming Events:

June 25, 2010 -- **PW Synod Gathering** -- "PW on Purpose" -- Southminster Presbyterian Church,

<http://synodma.org/PWGathering%20Flyer.pdf>

June 26, 2010 -- **Horizons Bible Study Workshop** -- "Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today" -- Village Presbyterian Church, <http://www.villageyouth.com/pw/Welcome.html>

August 21, 2010, 9AM -- **PWHPCT meeting** -- Grace Covenant

October 1-2, 2010 -- PWSMA **Mission-N-A-Weekend** -- Springfield, MO,

<http://www.john Calvinpresby.org/?action=1917494533§ionID=2636>

Save the date!

PWHP Fall Gathering

October 9, 2010 (That's 10/10/10 minus 1!)

Second Presbyterian Church, 312 E 55th Street, Kansas City, MO

"Empowering the Next Generation of Women" -- Speaker: Veeda Javaid

July 18-22, 2012 -- **PW Churchwide Gathering** -- Orlando, FL

Please forward this email to your local PW. We welcome input from you – joys & concerns, prayers needed, dynamite ideas, what your PW has been doing! Just reply to this email or send correspondence to Membership & Newsletter person, Pam Nitsche, 6315 Beverly Drive, Mission, KS 66202, (913) 831-2262, pnitsche@kc.rr.com.
Please contact me if you want to be removed from the email list or if someone in your church needs to be added.