

# Newslink

Bi-annual Newsletter for Presbyterian Women – Seattle Presbytery

Spring 2012

## Moderator's Message~

Did you know that there are Presbyterian Villages in Shillong, India?  
Did you know that American Presbyterian mission in South Asia began in November 1834? Attend the Spring Gathering and learn more about India & what we can do.

Special guest Kathy Matlin was one of 23 Presbyterian Women and 4 PW & PC(USA) staff to visit northern India last Fall on the 2011 Global Exchange. Kathy represented the Synod of Alaska NW and wishes to share her story and many pictures with us.

Kathy & her husband reside in Ellensburg where they are members of the 1st Presbyterian Church. The journey to India was an awesome experience for Kathy and she is anxious to tell her story. The current Horizon magazine, Jan/Feb highlights the Global Exchange and you will want to read the reflections of some of the participants and see a picture of Kathy with a young girl (and her even younger charge) on page 48.

There will be a short business meeting including some reports and the day also will include election and installation of a few new leaders. There will also be a commissioning of those of you who are attending the Churchwide Gathering in Orlando.

Plan now to attend this very important gathering and bring your friends with you.

Blessings,  
Joan Wilson  
Moderator, PWP in Seattle



Also available at the Spring Gathering:

- SERRV Table: SERRV is a nonprofit fair trade and development organization whose mission is to eradicate poverty wherever it resides ([www.serrv.org](http://www.serrv.org))
- Networkers Mother's Day Cards

## PWP Spring Gathering ~ March 31, 2012

Theme: *"Blessed are Those Who Hunger & Thirst for Justice"*

Matt 5:6

Lake Burien Presbyterian  
15003 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW ~ Burien, WA 98166  
206-242-6023  
Registration & coffee, 9:30am

Half of the offering taken at the gathering will go to Orphan Relief and Rescue Organization whose office is housed in the Lake Burien PC. More info about the organization can be found on their website: [www.Orphanreliefandrescue.org](http://www.Orphanreliefandrescue.org) or on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/orphanreliefandrescue>.

## The PW Global Exchange Program

The Global Exchange is a triennial program of Presbyterian Women that focuses on building relationships with church partners, women's organizations and especially Christian sisters around the world. Participants are nominated through their synods and selected by the Global Exchange Committee. Each participant is expected to itinerate and interpret for two years after the exchange.

In October, 23 Presbyterian women and four PW and PC(USA) staff traveled to northern India for the triennial Global Exchange. The group was hosted by the Church of North India (CNI) Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS) in Delhi, Agra, Kolkata and Durgapur, and by the Presbyterian Women's Fellowship, Presbyterian Church of India (PCI), in Shillong.

Women from India will complete the exchange in 2012, visiting PC(USA) synods and attending the PW Gathering in Orlando, July 18–22. For more information on their itineration, contact the Global Exchange participant(s) from your synod. Learn more about the Global Exchange in the January/February 2012 issue of *Horizons* and at [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org).



<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/pwgathering/about-gathering/>

It's time to register for the 2012 Churchwide Gathering, to be held July 18 –22 in Orlando. Register online or send in the form from your registration booklet. Register on or before May 15 to receive early-bird rate of \$440. After May 15, registration is \$480. After July 1, register at the Gathering registration area.

## SYNOD LUNCHEON

During the Churchwide Gathering in Louisville in July, the Women of the Synod of Alaska/NW will hold a luncheon. We will have an opportunity to get together with women from our Synod as well as meet international guests. There will be a short business meeting to elect and install new Synod leaders. The cost of the lunch is \$30.50 which includes gratuity.

The deadline for reservations is June 24. Payment should be made to the PWP Treasurer. She will keep track of the reservations and issue one check with a list of names to Louise Baker, PWS Treasurer.

If you have attended a prior Churchwide Gathering you may have one of the Synod pen holders that were made for a past Gathering. If you are going to Orlando this year please plan to pack your pen holder. If you are not going to Orlando and would let someone borrow your holder please let Joan know. Additional holders will be made if they are needed. These were made to identify the women attending the Gathering from this Synod.

Questions about the luncheon should be directed to Sally McClure 206.522.0750 [salimac@aol.com](mailto:salimac@aol.com)

## **Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering**

### **What Is the Birthday Offering?**

The Birthday Offering is a PW offering collected in the spring of each year to celebrate the blessings in the lives of Presbyterian Women. The offering funds up to five projects that are not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support, such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns. In August 2011, the committee reviewed 32 proposals and selected three projects as recipients of the 2012 Birthday Offering. Thank Offering grants helped two of the parent organizations begin their ministries; now Birthday Offering grants can help the organizations move in new and vital directions. The grant amounts for the projects will depend on gifts contributed during 2012. **The goal for the 2012 Birthday Offering is \$900,000.**

### **2012 Birthday Offering Grant Recipients**

#### **Circle of Friends: Celebrating Life, Inc.**

##### **Living Water for Girls**

Peachtree City, Georgia

Circle of Friends: Celebrating Life, Inc. serves, empowers and equips women to help other women and youth. The organization's newest program, Living Water for Girls, will rescue, rehabilitate and provide safe refuge for young American girls who are victims of sex trafficking and exploitation. Birthday Offering gifts will allow Living Water for Girls to offer their services on a self-contained campus, ensuring the safety of the girls. A garage will be converted into classrooms, staff offices, counseling space and a commercial kitchen (for culinary training). After a small chapel is constructed, it will house additional educational and counseling programs, as well as worship and Bible study.

#### **New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children (NOROC) Gymnasium and Activity Center**

Tulcea, Romania

New Opportunities for Romanian Orphaned Children (NOROC) is a program that shares God's love and blessings with children who have been orphaned. NOROC facilitates the spiritual, social, physical and emotional development of these vulnerable children. The organization offers these supports to various racial and ethnic groups, including a large Roma population. After the state-owned gym used by NOROC was repurposed, NOROC had no facility for team activities and physical play. A Birthday Offering grant will help make possible the purchase of land and the construction of a gymnasium/activity center for the roughly 400 children served by NOROC.

#### **Synod of the Sun Solar Under the Sun (SUTS)**

Irving, Texas

Solar Under the Sun (SUTS) trains lay people to lead teams in the installation of solar-powered energy systems. The systems provide clean, inexpensive and long-lasting energy in low-income communities, supplying power for health, education and communications services. Half of the Birthday Offering grant will be used to install a variety of solar panel equipment at Ferncliff Camp in Arkansas, where church mission teams can be trained on installation techniques through a lens of mission partnership. The other half of the grant will match funds for the purchase of solar panels and related hardware for projects in Haiti, where SUTS currently focuses.

Learn more about these three life-altering projects at WEBSITE WITH LINK. Give to the Birthday Offering in your PW group, online at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday), or by calling Jen Lenard-Benson, 888/728-7228, ext. 5308. Learn more about the Birthday Offering (including how to apply for a grant) at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/birthday), or by calling Cindy Goodman, 888/728-7228, ext. 5387.

## Julia's Place

Submitted by Bonnie Clark

Exciting News!! We have a new women's and families' shelter in the Seattle Presbytery at Grace Madrona Presbyterian Church.

The first of December several people concerned about the homeless problem in the Seattle Presbytery met at Grace Madrona PC to learn how this church graciously decided to convert their basement into an overnight shelter. I know you all know about Mary's Place, the daytime shelter in downtown Seattle. Now these women will have a safe place at night.

The basement needed to be quickly refurbished & Brocc Snyder of Maple Valley PC stepped in as site coordinator. Newport PC, OPPC, First Presbyterian Seattle, West Side PC, & Capitol Hill PC also responded along with other churches & by the end of December plumbing, electrical service, sheet rock, & carpeting were in place & the first residences were able to come in!!! There is still a lot to do & many furnishings are still needed. This is a tremendous opportunity for the Woman of The Seattle Presbytery; an opportunity to show God's love in action and deed in our own presbytery. Rainier Beach PC has already offered to host a 2 week period. Let's get the rest of our church's to offer as well. Please answer this call & offer your help.

Connect with Mark Zimmerly at Grace Madrona PC. [pastor@madronachurch.org](mailto:pastor@madronachurch.org).

### Year End Historian & Necrology Reports Due

It is time for all year end historian reports and necrology reports to be sent to:

Sally McClure

2320 NE 128th Seattle, WA 9812

[salimac@aol.com](mailto:salimac@aol.com).

Please get them to Sally before February 29<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you!



## New Together in Service Partner

Welcome to a new Together in Service partner, Little Dresses for Africa! This nondenominational Christian mission organization was founded by Rachel O'Neill to provide simple dresses for orphans and schoolchildren in Africa. Their mission statement is: "To plant in the hearts of little girls that they're worthy." The organization serves children around the world (including Appalachia and South Dakota) with homemade dresses and simple shorts for boys. Commercially produced clothing is not acceptable, as customs regulations for those items make import fees prohibitive. Patterns for the clothing are on the Little Dresses for Africa website ([www.littledressesforafrica.org](http://www.littledressesforafrica.org)).

Thank you to the several PW groups around the country who wrote to recommend this amazing grassroots mission program! Over 500,000 dresses have been sewn and shipped to needy children. Check out the Little Dresses website and encourage your PW group to host a sewing day. The founder will be part of the Churchwide Gathering in July 2012 in Orlando.

We would love to include what your PW and/or church is doing in Mission in a future Newslink!! Please send your information to Newslink editor, Trish Jackson, [Newslink@netjackson.net](mailto:Newslink@netjackson.net)

or

25327 128<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE,  
Kent, WA 98030

### **Process Change for PW Memorial and Recognition Gifts**

The Churchwide Coordinating Team (CCT) recently approved a change to the process around receipt and acknowledgement of memorial and recognition gifts made to PW. This change reflects current work practices and best standards in giving.

Previously, blank recognition and memorial certificates were sent to treasurers at least once a year and upon request. Any time a memorial or recognition gift was made within the presbytery, the PW in the Presbytery treasurer sent the check to PW and completed the blank certificate. There was no way of ensuring gifts were made to PW and no way of confirming who had received the memorial/recognition honor. A receipt/thank-you was sent based on the gifts received; it was sent to the treasurer.

Beginning January 1, 2012, there will be a new process. Blank certificates will no longer be sent to treasurers. Instead, when an individual or group mails the money for a memorial or recognition gift to the PWP treasurer, they should also send a form (available on PW's website) that includes the addresses of both the donor/s and the honoree, and a choice as to preferred person to sign the certificate—national or local PW leaders. A receipt for donation will be sent to the donor/s along with a certificate including the honoree's name, and a blank space for leader signatures or signatures from national leaders provided.

The new process will allow PW to better track donors, honorees and gifts, and acknowledge them appropriately. If there is a need to create a last-minute certificate, upon request, PW staff can assist leaders via phone or email with the creation of certificates using common computer programs. Download the updated form at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving).

If you have questions or need more information, contact Jen Lenard-Benson, [jen.lenard-benson@pcusa.org](mailto:jen.lenard-benson@pcusa.org) or 888/728-7228, ext. 5308.

### **Digital dawn on the *Horizons*!**

A new digital day has dawned for *Horizons* magazine! Subscribers to the print publication now have access to the digital edition of the magazine, at their fingertips, on their electronic devices! If you are a print subscriber, go to [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons) and click on the button for digital *Horizons*. You will be prompted to create an account. Use the email address on file for your subscription and create a password. If you are not a subscriber,

- subscribe to the print edition of the magazine and get free access to the digital edition, plus six issues of the magazine AND the annual Bible study in print format for \$24.95, or
- subscribe to the digital edition alone and get access to six fully digital issues of the magazine, plus access to back issues.

View the magazine from your iPad, iPhone, Torch, Playbook, Android, Mac or PC! This subscription, just \$15, does not include the annual Bible study. Subscribe online at [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons) or call toll-free 866/802-3635.

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