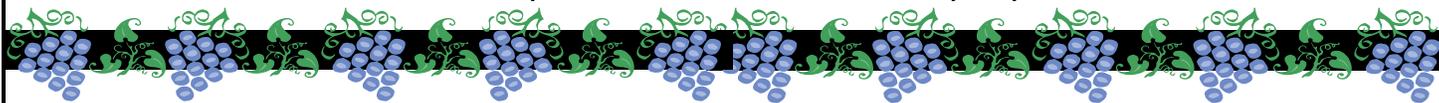


Newsletter for Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Milwaukee



GRAPEVINE

“I am the vine, you are the branches.” John 15:5

April 2018

Edited by Marilyn Stone

WORDS TO PONDER . . . FROM PW LEADERSHIP

In Corinthians, we recall Paul telling us that Faith, Hope, & Love abide, but the greatest of these is love. We also recall Christ telling his disciples to ‘love one another as I have loved you’. What does it mean to love one another? Is it enough to feel love for others? As Presbyterian Women, we are very familiar with showing love through our missions. Think of love as an action word. How do we DO love? One way is to speak love. Seems simple and ineffective when first considered, but... Most of us express our love to family members, especially when taking leave. But when is the last time you heard someone in your circle or at church say “I love you.”? Those are powerful words. We all know in our hearts that God loves us, but to hear it from another human gives it strength. Take it one step further – when others are going through tough times we often say “I will pray for you”. Think how much more powerful it would be if we added “because I love you”, or “because God loves you and so do I”.

We can become the voice of Christ. We can also become the hands of Christ. When the woman touched the hem of Christ's garment, He felt a power, a strength leave him. We can be a human touch for Christ. Babies need to be touched and cuddled. Our culture has become so frightened of touch that children and the elderly no longer feel the touch of a friendly human, a touch of love. We are willing to offer a hug to someone who is grieving, or to family at times of greeting or parting. But when else do we reach out and deliberately touch one another? That touch can be amazingly powerful. Have you ever experienced holding the hand of someone on the verge of death? I have. Have you held the hand of someone about to go into surgery, or someone who has just received some bad news? You feel a power leave you through that hand clasp. A nurse reached and held my hand as a young woman as I was about to undergo a medical procedure. It was most comforting. I received a power through that touch.

Practice being Christ's voice and hands in your circle and in your church and a miracle may happen. You may accidentally begin building community, and that can be miraculous.

Helen McMasters, PWP Co-Moderator

NEW PW WEBSITE – CHECK IT OUT

Type www.presbyterianwomen.org into your browser, then bookmark the page. Discover the new and improved website for PW. . . all things PW in one place!

2018 PW CHURCHWIDE GATHERING

There's still time to register. . .

There's still time to apply for scholarships. . .

There's still time to make travel arrangements. . .

The PW Churchwide Gathering is August 2-5, 2018!



Arise, shine, your light has come!

Plan now to attend the 2018 Churchwide Gathering to be held August 2–5, 2018 at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky. Registration is \$425.

For more information and to register, go to the website: https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/build-community/churchwide-gathering/. *Be sure to register for the Synod of Lakes and Prairies Luncheon and ½ the cost will be reimbursed to you!* Register by May 1st to receive your best choice of workshops.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE: PWP of Milwaukee is offering a \$300 Scholarship to those attending the 2018 Churchwide Gathering. Please send a copy of your paid registration form to: Mary Hayden, 626 S. 7th Street, Delavan, WI 53115.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANTS: Grants are available from PW Churchwide to help with Gathering costs. The application deadline has been extended to May 1st. These grants are disbursed after receipts are submitted. Download the application at: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/grants/leadership-development-grants/>

2018 SPRING GATHERING

Mark your calendar. . . the Presbytery of Milwaukee PW Spring Gathering will be held 9AM – 1PM on **Saturday, June 9th at Avalon Square, 222 Park Place, in Waukesha.** Registration \$12, includes lunch.

You won't want to miss our keynote speakers, Ruth Meylink and Rev. Patricia Lyon as they share about their experiences in Cambodia, strengthening ties with the Cambodian people and continuing work on humanitarian projects. They volunteer for “Building Cambodia, Inc.”.



Cambodian fair market products will also be available for sale. See attached poster for registration details!

MISSION NEWS. . .

MISSION PROJECTS FROM GLOBAL EXCHANGE

The following two projects were selected as mission projects from the 2017 Global Exchange to Indonesia.

Ciliwung Community Center Jakarta, Indonesia

The Ciliwung Community Center, a women's education and empowerment center, works with impoverished women teaching them nutrition, how to supplement their incomes to alleviate poverty, their rights to education, and how to talk to their husbands about sharing home and child-rearing responsibilities. There is also a library and kindergarten where children are taught to read. Learn more in the *Horizons* January/February 2018 issue, page 15.

Suwung School and Clinic Bali, Indonesia

Located in a landfill where people live and sort trash, the school provides educational programming for roughly forty students in the lower elementary grades. Several of the children are orphans and live nearby, while other children's parents work in the dump, sorting trash. This is also the site of a monthly free-clinic. Learn more in the *Horizons* January/February 2018 issue, page 20.

MISSION PROJECTS FROM USAME

The following projects were selected from the 2016 USA Mission Experience to San Francisco Bay Area.

Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition San Francisco, California

The Bay Area Anti-Trafficking Coalition believes that eradication of human trafficking is possible only when the collective impact of individuals and groups comes to bear upon this multifaceted issue. They exist to facilitate the collaboration of individuals, communities and other organizations in order to build a united response to the injustice of human trafficking. As they mobilize the public to engage the issue, they envision a slave-free San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. Learn more at <http://www.baatc.org/> and in the *Horizons* January/February 2017 issue, page 15.

Puente Community Resource Center Pescadores, California

The Puente Community Resource Center provides education and leadership development programs to help immigrant workers accomplish their dreams and advocate for themselves and their communities. Over 40 programs in health and wellness, adult education, youth leadership development and employment, and economic security are offered. Emergency resources for rent, utilities, bedding, clothing, and toiletries are also distributed. Learn more in the *Horizons* January/February 2017 issue, page 17 or at <https://mypuente.org/whoweare/>.

EXPLOIT NO MORE – 5K RUN/WALK

Exploit No More is celebrating their fifth anniversary! As a part of the celebration, they will be hosting the fifth annual 5K run/walk that will take place on May 5th, 2018 at the Milwaukee Mile at Wisconsin State Fair Park. Everyone is invited to the "Run/walk for Aftercare"! Volunteers are also needed during this event. Get the details, see volunteer needs and register at: <http://www.exploittenomore.org/upcomingevents.html>.

2018 BIRTHDAY OFFERING

The 2018 Birthday Offering gifts reflect community of Christ missional hospitality at all levels. The following projects have been selected to receive grants from this special offering:

The Dwelling Place, Minneapolis-St. Paul MN, provides hope to victims of domestic abuse and their children through its physical, emotional and spiritual support services and the sanctuary of a safe home. This grant will enable the purchase of a vacant lot where a multi-use building will be constructed, expanding their service.

The Village of Grace Center for Physical and Spiritual Health in Tegucigalpa, Honduras will be purchased with these grant funds. This training and retreat facility, managed by Presbyterian women in Honduras, will offer international hospitality for retreats, workshops and mission teams. In addition the women will grow in spirit and self-confidence.

Cottage Village, a Tiny-house Community for Low-income Residents located in Cottage Grove, Oregon whose ministry is to provide quality affordable housing and a safe, structured social community for individuals and families with low income. With grant funds, thirteen tiny houses and a central shared-use area will be built, serving as a compassionate and protective community for vulnerable rural citizens.

Read more about the Birthday Offering recipients in the Jan/Feb *Horizons*. The Birthday Offering Dedication will be presented at the Milwaukee Presbytery Spring Gathering, June 9.

Birthday Offering funds collected in congregations should be submitted on the quarterly "Remittance Form to the Presbytery" and the PW Presbytery treasurer will then forward the funds to Presbyterian Women at the national level.



Remember, shop AmazonSmile and help PW! Start at smile.amazon.com, choose PW as your charity, and Amazon gives a portion of each purchase back to PW!

JUSTICE AND PEACE. . .

WINNEBAGO PW SPRING GATHERING HOSTS GLOBAL EXCHANGE SPEAKER – WE'RE INVITED!

Our neighbors to the north, PW in Winnebago Presbytery has invited women in our presbytery to attend their Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 28th. It will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Sheboygan.

Sue Ingels, John Knox Presbytery, represented our synod on the 2017 Global Exchange trip to Indonesia. On April 28th, Sue will be sharing her experiences and the issues that are impacting Indonesian women. Registration begins at 9:30 AM, followed by a brunch. First Presbyterian Church is located at 1429 N. Fifth St. in Sheboygan.

We plan to carpool, so mark your calendar now to join us! Let Judy Bell (414-378-6437) or Helen McMasters (262-740-1321) know if you plan to attend.

TOGETHER IN ACTION FOR CHILDREN'S LITERACY

PW urges action around children's literacy during the week of April 30-May 6, Children's Book Week and also PW's third Together in Action week of the year. Try one of these ideas:

- Roving Readers (form a group of volunteers who go to community centers, hospitals and other sites to read aloud to children)
- Community book drive (for children without books)
- Lending library for families; emphasis on books with positive messages, empowering stories, etc.
- Give to PW's Thank and Birthday Offerings, which fund education programs and help build schools
- Volunteer at schools helping children needing help
- Community Story Hour (host it at your church and read aloud to children of the community)
- Donate books to hospitals, schools, agencies. . .

Resources are at www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice

JUSTICE AND PEACE CALENDAR

April – Sexual Assault Awareness Month

- 1 Easter
- 8 International Day of the Roma
- 12 International Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 20-23 Ecumenical Advocacy Days
- 22 Earth Day
- 24 Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day
- 25 Orange Day (<http://endviolence.un.org>)
- 30-M 6 Children's Book Week
- 30-M 6 PW Together in Action Days-Children's Literacy

May

- 1 May Day/International Workers Day
- 12 World Fair Trade Day & Stamp Out Hunger Drive
- 13 Mother's Day
- 25 Orange Day
- 28 Memorial Day

LEADERSHIP. . .

PW 101.4: PW CONNECTIONALISM MIRRORS THAT OF THE CHURCH

It is said that Presbyterian approach every task in a way that is decent, in good order and in community. That helps us better understand why our denomination and Presbyterian Women are organized at all levels of the church: congregation, presbytery (made up of several congregations in a region), synod (made up of several presbyteries), and churchwide (or national).

This connectional system allows ideas and information to flow through the organization, strengthening the ministry and mission of all. Our connectional systems undergirded with roles and responsibilities assumed by those called to lead and participate at each level. The circle at the congregational level, is the foundation of PW and informs and responds to the ministry of PW at each level is led by a coordinating team.

PW 101.5: THE PW CIRCLE REVISITED

PW 101.2 introduced the idea that PW groups at the congregational level consist of circles. The circle is the foundation of all that PW does. PW 101.4 introduced the idea that PW is connectional and that the PW in the Congregation (PWC) is connected to PW at each level.

To elaborate: The PWC group informs and responds to the ministry of PW at all levels of the church: local, presbytery, synod and churchwide. The PWC has representation and contact with the PW in the Presbytery (PWP); the PWP connects to PW in the Synod (PWS); and the PWS connects to PW Churchwide. Information and programming moves in all directions throughout the structure, with local and regional work impacting national work, and national work informing regional and local work. There is good work happening in PW all of the time, from the mission of a local church in Boise to the fulfillment of a Thank Offering grant in Sudan!

In 1988, Christie Loney wrote:

The circle can be a place that challenges us to stretch beyond our known limits. Within the confines of a loving, accepting community we can take risky steps, fail and not feel foolish. This enables us to move beyond the safe place, reach out to others and have our faith tested. In the circle, Christian leadership is born, nurtured and sent forth into ministry. Maybe you are a young woman, a woman in her mid-life crisis, a businesswoman, a working mother, a single parent, an elderly woman. . .; each of you has a place in a circle. . . A local church may have a number of circles, each one unique and different. Yet a commonality. . . binds them together. . . ("Shape Your Circle with Love," Horizons, July/August 1988)

STAY INFORMED. . .

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April 29, 2018	PWP Winnebago Spring Gathering and PWP Milwaukee invited to attend
May 15, 2018	Grant application deadline for Birthday Offering. Application and information at www.presbyterianwomen.org
June 9, 2018	PWP Milwaukee Spring Gathering Avalon Square, Waukesha
August 2-5, 2018	PW Churchwide Gathering at Galt House Hotel, in Louisville, KY
June 20-23, 2019	PW Synod Gathering at Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames, IA

2018 MISSION PLEDGE UPDATE

YOUR GIFTS MAKES ALL PW THINGS POSSIBLE. . .

Congratulations congregations in the Presbytery of Milwaukee for your generous 2018 Mission Pledges:

- Presbyterian Women Churchwide	\$2760.00
- Synod of Lakes & Prairies	\$ 405.00
- Presbytery of Milwaukee	\$ 735.00

Congregations may support PW Mission Pledge *any time* during the 2018 calendar year. **Send checks payable to PWP Milwaukee, c/o Mary Hayden, 626 S. 7th Street, Delavan WI 53115.**

Unless designated your contributions will be divided as follows:

33% PW Churchwide Mission Pledge
33% to PW Synod of Lakes and Prairies
34% PW Presbytery of Milwaukee

FINANCIAL NOTES FROM OUR PWP TREASURER

Thank you, congregations for supporting PW

Mission Pledge, in 2017. Following was received:

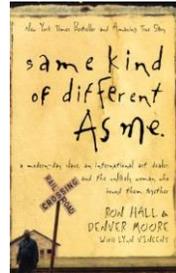
Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA)	\$3062.70
PW Synod of Lakes and Prairies	\$ 612.10
PW Presbytery of Milwaukee	\$ 946.20
2017 Birthday Offering	\$ 826.00
2017 Least Coin	\$ 150.74
Exploit No More, Free Will Offering	\$ 354.00
Exploit No More Quilt Mission	\$ 325.00
2017 Thank Offering	\$2058.76
Robin House Offering	\$ 225.50
Cents Ability (PDA)	\$ 199.10
Global Exchange, USA Mission Experience	\$ 150.00

2018 Budget will be presented for approval at our Spring Gathering June 9, 2018.

- Financial questions may be directed to Mary Hayden, mhayden626@att.net.
- Please include *Remittance from the Congregation* Form and make check payable to "PW Presbytery of Milwaukee" when submitting any payments.
- Contributions from individuals can also be sent to the with a note reflecting purpose of donation and your contact information. Treasurer's address in bold above.

BOOK REVIEW by Helen McMasters

"Same Kind of Different" by Ron Hall and Denver Moore.



This double memoir was written by two men, born in mid twentieth century in southern United States. They were born on opposite sides of the tracks, one white and one black. One grew up illiterate and living on the streets, the other became a very wealthy art dealer. This is the story of two very diverse individuals who moved from suspicion and distrust to the development of a brotherly bond. While reading we learn the true meaning of friendship, what it means to love as God loves us and to recognize an angel when in its presence. You will find a new understanding of grace and compassion.

REMEMBERING MARY STILLING, FORMER PW PRESBYTERY MODERATOR AND TREASURER

Mary Stilling, who served as vice moderator, moderator and treasurer of PW in the Presbytery of Milwaukee during the years 1998 – 2008, died on November 29, 2017 at the age of 56. Those of us who served with her were blessed to have known this remarkable young woman and to have had her as a PW leader.



Mary is survived by husband, Bob, two daughters, Elizabeth and Stacy and two grandchildren. Mary was a business woman, finding a need in her community, she sold and repaired vacuum cleaners and sewing machines and had a thriving business doing clothing alterations. Though she devoted most of her time to her business, she welcomed everyone with whom she encountered with a smile and time to develop friendships.

At her memorial service she was remembered as one of those angels that we encounter in our midst expressing her love of her Lord through her words and actions. She touched others with her compassion and concern, often ignoring her own needs. We miss her, as does her family and community.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN ONLINE

Stay informed and connected with Presbyterian Women in any or all of the following ways:

PW website – www.presbyterianwomen.org

YouTube – www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen

Facebook

www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa/

Church Store – www.pcusa.org/store

Synod of Lakes and Prairies website, for link to

"The Sower", PW Synod newsletter –

<http://www.lakesandprairies.org/>

*Presbyterian Women ~ Presbytery of Milwaukee
Spring Gathering*

Saturday, June 9, 2018

Avalon Square ~ 222 Park Place, Waukesha

Registration - \$12.00, including lunch
9:00 - 9:30 AM Registration – Dismissal 1:00 PM

Being the Hands of God

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord. . .” Colossians 3:23*



Program: “Building Cambodia”

Ruth Meylink and Rev. Patricia Lyon, Speakers

Handmade Cambodian items will be for sale



Join us for

Fellowship ~ Food ~ Worship ~ Inspiration

Make your reservations by June 2, 2018 - contact Mary Hayden

Phone: 262-728-5425

Email: mhayden626@att.net

U.S. Mail: 626 S. 7th Street, Delavan, WI 53115

Name _____

Church _____

Phone _____ Email _____