

NEWSPAPER FOR WOMEN IN THE PRESBYTERY OF CHICAGO



FROM OUR MODERATOR.

SPRING 2011

Greetings to All Women in Chicago Presbytery Churches. . .

Every Presbyterian Church – from the smallest to the largest – has its own unique flavor of Presbyterian Women working together, yet we are united through common study, service, fellowship and nurture. The tie that binds us is our love of God and our fellow sisters in Christ. It is our goal to keep you abreast of Synod, Presbytery, and local church PW news so that we all may feel connected to the larger church as Presbyterian Women. Please notice the survey in this edition of the Weavers. You may send it in by email or mail it to us. We would like to know what you are doing. Two churches have already responded to our survey.

Hoffman Estates Church of the Cross has two Bible Study Groups, special gatherings, and mission projects. Every October they have a retreat and a Ladies Tea in April or May. They prepare meals for the sick and shut-ins. The women have the 10,000 Villages Sale during the Advent season. The women assist with the repast after the funerals. A yearly rummage sale supports local and national organizations for youth and children. Their CT meets quarterly and Bible Study meets monthly. (Submitted by Ann Moorman)

The women of **Crerar Memorial Presbyterian Church, 8100 S. Calumet, Chicago** are organized into circles to form small groups that gather regularly to provide an inclusive, caring community of women. The 2009-10 Bible Study for Circles is “Journeys through *Revelation*” from the Horizons Bible Study Series. These four circles and their activities are:

Dorcas Circle The members prepare and deliver fruit and goodie baskets to the sick and shut-in members of Crerar on Easter and at Christmas. It meets in the church monthly on the third Tuesday

Eunice Circle The members give gifts to students at Tesla School for pregnant girls at Christmas.

Patricia Greene Johnson Circle The Chicago-based [Glass Slipper Project](#) collects new and gently used formal dresses and provides them free of charge to high school seniors unable to afford their own clothing. At Glass Slipper "boutique," as personal shoppers we help students select the perfect style. They meet once a month on an agreed Sunday at church.

Sarah Circle The major mission of this circle was the Christmas in July Project at a nursing home. The members presented the residents with gifts of lap wraps, baseball caps and socks. This circle meets monthly on a Saturday morning at the church.

One circle even goes out of town once a year, for example the women meet in Louisiana, Florida, Ohio and Mexico. Crerar women also participated in the Gatherings of Chicago and the Churchwide Gathering. PW of Crerar offer scholarships to the National Gathering. Missions include the annual bake sale on Palm Sunday. The funds from this event are used to support Celebration of Giving and the local mission projects: Angel Tree, Firman House and the Chicago Food Depository.

It is our goal to keep you abreast of Synod, Presbytery, and local church PW news so that we all may stay connected as Presbyterian Women. Please feel free to contact any PWCT team member with joys, concerns, and suggestions as together we delight in serving the Lord. May your time shared as PW be a blessing to you and yours.

Ruby Brown, Moderator Presbyterian Women of Chicago

Pullman Welcomes Presbyterian Women

The generous hospitality of Pullman Presbyterian church surrounded Chicago PWs in October for the Fall Gathering. Upon arriving we learned that Pullman has a community farmers market with Illinois produce during the summer. Some visiting PWs were even able to purchase fruit and vegetables. After a continental breakfast served in Knox Hall, the business meeting began in the sanctuary.

Moderator Ruby Brown opened the meeting with the PW Purpose. After Mrs. Linda Knox welcomed us, LaKesha Townsend and Sydne Evans accompanied the Instruments of Peace Liturgical Dancers for the opening devotions. This beautiful dancing set the tone for honoring Ann Love Page-El. Her son Peter Love sang a tribute to his mother. Ruby presented Peter with a memorial certificate for Ann's service to her church, the Presbytery, and PW churchwide.

Human trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining by any means any person for forced labor, slavery or servitude. Laura Lyter, a pastoral associate at Wildwood Presbyterian Church, presented an overview of this international violation of human rights. She cited state department statistics along with individual stories of victims of trafficking. An estimated 800,000 people, of which approximately 80 percent are women and up to 50 percent are minors, are trafficked across national borders. This number does not include the millions of people who are trafficked within their countries of origin. Farm laborers, textile workers, and household helpers are enslaved with no way out. Ms. Lyter related experiences of girls as young as ten years old being sold by parents who believe the girls are going to a better life. She also talked about the plight of trafficked children and teens here in Chicago. Often these young people end up in the justice system, when what they need is a safe place. Resources from Ms. Lyter and PCUSA about human trafficking can be found below.

The Rev. Eddie Knox, pastor of Pullman, led a Bible Study of Revelation. Although it was a breakout session, almost all of the attendees remained in the sanctuary for Pastor Knox's meeting. Bible Study has an important place at Pullman. Rev. Knox leads several each week, at Pullman.

After gathering in Knox Hall for a delicious hot lunch, we returned to the sanctuary for worship. The Rev. Dr. SanDawna Ashley of Morgan Park Presbyterian Church used the Old Testament lesson of Esther 1: 1-9 as she spoke about "The Power of No". Many thanks to the Pullman Active Women for their work and hospitality.

Resources

Human Trafficking Resources:

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn (This book is not only about human trafficking; it is about human rights for all women in the world. After visiting women all over the world, they look at problems through the experiences of individuals. A serious look at the challenges facing women in the world with information about how to help.)

Websites

www.humantrafficking.org
www.freetheslaves.net

www.kiva.org
www.warinternational.org

www.sharedhope.org
www.invisiblechildren.com

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

We will send *Weavers* to each PW moderator or women's contact of a congregation. We will begin sending *Weavers* by email to those who have an email address. If you would like us to send you a hard copy of *Weavers* by Snail Mail, please let me know. We will be happy to send copies to those who don't have email. If you have email, please email your address to ninakoelpin@att.net.

Communications Information Nina Koelpin 622 W. Wesley Wheaton IL 60187

Email: ninakoelpin@att.net Phone: 630-690-5174

You can also access *Weavers* at the Chicago Presbytery Website.

<http://www.chicagopresbytery.org/presbyterian-women-2>

Moderator: Ruby Brown email: rdbrown_1999@yahoo.com

Secretary: Jane Wilson email: jwilsonwiwi@aol.com



Laura Lyter



**Gathering at Pullman
October 23, 2010**



Son of Ann Page El



Linda Knox



Ruby Brown and Rev. Ashley



Instruments of Peace
Liturgical Dancers



Rev. Eddie Knox , Donna Estler,
Peggy Johnson, and Karen Scouten



Spring Gathering April 30, 2011 Presbyterian Church of Western Springs
Faith in Action In Honor of Betsy Hennessy

Betsy Hennessy, an active PW from Western Springs, was a true example of *Faith in Action*. She gave her time to PW at her church as well as numerous community organizations. In fact, she was set to host a gathering at her church when she died after a short illness. The Western Springs PWs are continuing with the plan in Betsy's honor.

Speakers for the Spring Gathering are profound examples of *Faith in Action*. In 2004, RN **Teri Dreher** joined a mission trip to South Africa. What she saw changed the trajectory of her life. She founded **Hands and Hearts International**, which grew out of her desire to devote more time and resources to an area of rural southeastern Nigeria in great need of improved healthcare and sanitation. She has completed her seventh mission venture to Africa. Partnering with Rotary International, she has organized yearly medical and entrepreneurial mission trips to Nigeria. Volunteers provide medical clinics, supplies and care for those who have little access to health services. In a two week trip, they see about 5000 patients. The motto of their group says it all.



**With the Hands of Martha and the Heart of Mary, we
"Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with our God." Micah 6:8**



Another example of *Faith in Action* is **The Rev. Corey Nelson**. He has served as a Young Adult volunteer in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and in Ghana. He has worked on the PCUSA World Mission staff as a mission educator, speaker, and worship leader. Presently he is serving as Associate Pastor for Mission at the First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest. He loves to play the djembe drum and piano (though rarely at the same time).

BaBa Eli was one of the founding members of Muntu Dance Theatre. During his Breakout Session, he will engage participants in the use of traditional African instruments. This is a "hands-on" workshop. Participants will learn a welcome song from Nigeria called Fungu.

Survey from Moderator Ruby Brown

*Living out faith in the midst of a caring community of Women
Share what is happening in your women's group with us.*

Your Church _____

What are your small groups or circles?

Describe your gatherings or special events?

What are your mission activities within your church and in wider world?

Send us news about your group.

Do you have anyone in your group with a program other groups might enjoy?

Send Information to Ruby Brown 9334 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago IL 60619

Email to rdbrown_1999@yahoo.com

Treasurer Information: Mission Giving

PW PoC 2010 Contributions to Houses and Agencies			
HOUSES		OTHER AGENCIES Cont.	
Association House	1,263	Homeless in Chicago	100
Casa Central	763	Inner Voice	200
Christian Industrial League	1,263	Institute Women Today	125
Christopher House	1,263	Kemmerer Village	1,213
El Hogar del Nino	763	Lincoln Park Shelter	600
Erie Neighborhood House	763	Love Christian Clearinghouse	500
Firman Services	763	MAPP International	200
Jones Community	763	Main Township Food Pantry	500
Onward House	763	Mission to the World	50
OTHER AGENCIES		Night Ministries	685
Arlington Church	200	Opportunities International	100
Avenue to Independence	400	Pillars Community Service	750
Center of Concern	400	Pullman Pres Ch-Food Pantry	113
Church Women United	50	Presbyterian Home	300
Companions	50	Safe Place	95
Concern America	100	South Suburban PADS	50
Family Shelter Service	500	U.S.O.	50
Firman Day Care	50	Walter Gresham School	100
		Wings	600
		World Vision	200
Total Contributions			16, 646

Treasurer: Donna Estler
 1091 Brighton Drive
 Wheaton IL 60189
 Email: donna.estler@gmail.com

Remember to send Donna Estler your email address!

Important Treasurer Information

Please send your contributions payable to "PW PoC" (with a memo on how they are to be distributed), to the Treasurer of PW in the PoC, Donna Estler. She will then send your contributions as you have directed. **Please include an email address in with your contribution, so the treasurer is able to acknowledge it.**

These are contributions received by treasurer for 2010. If you do not see your contribution, it might have been sent in after December 31st. These are only the contributions that your groups sent through the PW PoC treasurer.

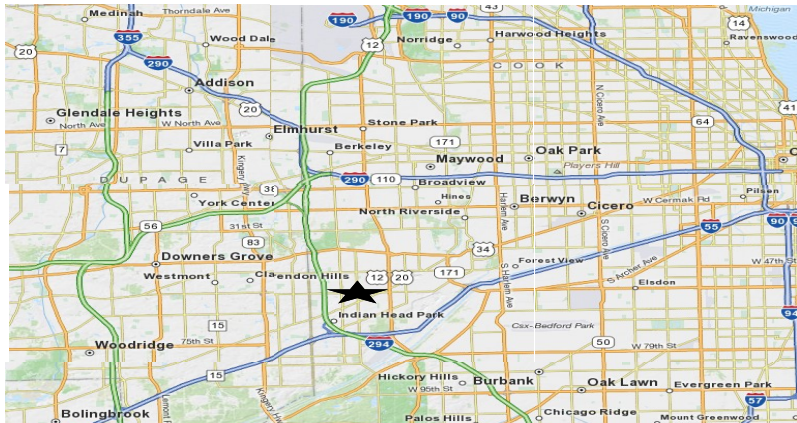
SYNOD GATHERING/RETREAT INFO CENTER

L. Nadine Hill
 421 Chapel Hill West Drive
 Indianapolis, IN 46214
 Home: 317-241-4041
 Cell: 317-644-1124 (preferred)
 Home Fax: 317-241-4038

PW SYNOD GATHERING/RETREAT "RETREAT IN THE SPIRIT"



GENEVA CONFERENCE CENTER
 ROCHESTER, INDIANA
JUNE 10, 11, 12, 2011
 REGISTRATION FEE: \$155
 WORSHIP, FANTASTIC HYMNS/PRAISE SONGS,
 TWO PLENARY SESSIONS, FOUR WORKSHOPS,



**Presbyterian Church of Western Springs
4250 Wolf Road Western Springs IL 60558**

The Presbyterian Church of Western Springs is a vibrant place where people of all ages and stages in life gather for a common journey of seeking, discovering, understanding, and sharing God’s love in Jesus Christ. This is not hype. The cookbook, created as a fundraiser by their PWs, is one piece of evidence. Glancing through the book, the reader feels as if she is meeting the members. Recipes from various members include illustrations by youth. Join Chicago PWs in Western Springs on April 30, 2011 at 9:00 am.

The church is located on the northwest corner of Wolf Road and 53rd Street. The entrance is at the back of the church. Enter the parking lot from 53rd Street.

Directions to Church

From the North:

Take 294 (Tri State) south
Exit at US 34 E/Ogden Ave
Proceed East for one mile
Turn right (south) on Wolf Road
The church is about 1.8 miles on the right.

From the South

Take 294 (Tri State) north
Exit at I55 S/Stevenson/Wolf Rd
Be sure to stay on Wolf Road
Go North on Wolf Road to 53rd Street
Turn Left on 53rd Street.

If you are interested in riding the bus from Crerar Presbyterian Church to Western Springs, the bus leaves from the church at 8100 S. Calumet. The cost is \$15.00. Please call Yvonne Moore at 773-881-8887.

PW's New Address

There's a new way to find Presbyterian Women:
www.presbyterianwomen.org. Visit PW's newly designed web pages soon to find the latest news, resources and opportunities to live out the PW Purpose.

And don't forget PW's many other virtual homes—

- YouTube** www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen
- Facebook** www.facebook.com; search for "Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA)"
- Flickr** www.flickr.com/photos/presbyterianwomen
- Twitter** www.twitter.com/pwpcusa

You can find PW's favorite publication, *Horizons*, at <http://horizons.pcusa.org/> and on Facebook by searching "Horizons."

Every time I am working on an edition of *Weavers*, I think of Jo McBride. She kept us all connected for so many years! She is enjoying Kansas City and being close to her son.

Her email is:
jody616@kc.rr.com

Mail: 616 NW Lilac Place
Lee's Summit MO 64081

**Presbytery of Chicago PW Spring Gathering
Presbyterian Church of Western Springs**

Faith in Action



Saturday, April 30, 2011

Please Register by Monday, April 25th!

**Reservations
Email pcws@presbyws.org Phone 708-246-5220**

**Teri Dreher
Hearts and Hands International
"Improving Health Care in Southeastern Nigeria"
and
The Rev. Corey Nelson**

**Breakouts by
Rev. Nelson, Teri Dreher, and Baba Eli**

9:00 a.m. Registration/Coffee
9:30 a.m. Meeting/Program/Breakouts
12:15 noon Lunch ~ \$10.00 *Pay at door.*
1:15 p.m. Worship

- **Mission Project : Pine Avenue Food Pantry
Pine Avenue United Church in Chicago
(A Presbyterian Church)
Bring non-perishable items or monetary donations.**
- Resources
- Birthday Offering

Presbyterian Women of Chicago
Nina S. Koelpin
622 W. Wesley
Wheaton, IL 60187

PW Chicago
Calendar 2011-2012

April 30, 2011

Spring Gathering
Presbyterian Church
Western Springs

May 14, 2011

PWPoC CT Meeting
Presbytery Office
9:00 a.m.

June 10-12, 2011

Synod of Lincoln Trails
PW Gathering
"Retreat in the Spirit"

Information Enclosed

September 10, 2011

PWPoC CT Meeting
Presbytery Office
9:00 a.m.

October 22, 2011

Fall Gathering TBA

July 18-22, 2012

PW Churchwide Gathering

Mission Project
For Western Springs

Pine Avenue Food Pantry
Bring Non-Perishable Items
And
Monetary Donations!

Birthday Offering to be Collected at Gathering

2011 Birthday Grant Bring Peace Now Jonglei, South Sudan

Founded in 1972, [Across](#) is an interdenominational, international organization that works to improve the lives of Sudanese people by strengthening communities. In southern Sudan, intertribal violence has killed thousands of people and displaced thousands more. Across believes education is the key to ending the cycle of violence and improving lives. This Birthday Offering grant will help Across fund a four-pronged approach to education:

- producing 2,500 books with traditional folktales, praise songs and biblical stories of women leaders;
- sponsoring an English language course for at least five women, strengthening their ability to serve as translators and teachers;
- providing teacher training workshops for at least 40 teachers; and building a dormitory at Yei Teacher Training College that will house at least 60 women while they are enrolled in a two-year training program.

In addition to the educational benefits of these projects, this initiative also will help build a culture of peaceful coexistence between traditionally warring ethnic groups, and increase societal value of children (especially girls) and acceptance of women as leaders.

