

Synod of the Northeast
Virginia A. Champlin, Representative
August 2008-January 2009
25 PWP (includes 2 Korean and 2 Hispanic)

R23-02-09

Significant Actions & Activities in the Synod - *Sandy Duncan Grillo, Moderator*

- In September, Ellie Gregory, past Churchwide & past PWSNE Moderator died at her home in Western New York. We celebrate her Life with and leading us; we know that she is home with our Lord who she served so faithfully.
- Global Partner Jyung In (Jenny) Lee has begun sharing her experience with some of our PWP.
- Plans are almost finalized for the May Retreats: Healing (New Jersey shore), Spiritual (central New York), and Horizons Bible Study (Stony Point Conference Center).
- Buttons (pins) have been designed and made for our participants to wear at the Churchwide Gathering
- Diane Nafash has made an excellent DVD on "What is PW" that is being used throughout the Synod

Significant Actions & Activities in the Presbyteries

- **Albany** - *Gloria Ghirarduzzi, Moderator*
 - Fall retreat & workshop at Camp Hebron: Rev. MJ Pattison led Horizons Bible Study, wrote a Haiku poem about the Jubilee year, nature walk. Each participant received a necklace of a fish with Jesus' name in the middle - a sign that we are doing Jesus' work in a united way.
 - The Hamilton Union church PW has become involved with the campus ministry program at State University of New York Albany Chapel House including dinners for students. Some of these students have become involved with area churches.
 - Mayfield Church hosted PW Night in Pakistan; program about Pakistan and the Networkers Malaria Prevention Program.
- **Boston** - *Elizabeth Denier, Moderator*
 - In lieu of a Fall Gathering, PWP had a workshop "Putting a Human Face on Immigration" as part of the Presbytery's Presbytery Day: "Many Voices - One Body, Multicultural Opportunities and Challenges in Our Churches" theme.
- **Elizabeth** - *Ginnie Miller, Moderator*
 - Fall Gathering led by Joy Carol "Affirming Life in a Time of Fear and Uncertainty."
 - A couple of churches are in the process of researching to reactivate PW.
- **Cayuga-Syracuse** - *Susan Silliman Smith, Moderator*
 - Involvement in Action concentrated on voter registration, absentee ballots, and providing transportation to the poles.
- **Genesee Valley** - *Gloria Hall, Moderator*
 - Working on plans for a Spring Gathering.
- **Geneva** - *Regina Tarshus and Virginia Champlin, Co-Moderators*
 - August Day of Inspiration held at Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake. Joy Hoffman (Elmira) told the story of Sarah Smith who went as a missionary to Japan in 1880 and PW Birthday party.
- **Cayuga-Syracuse • Genesee Valley • Geneva**
 - Joint Fall Gathering. Keynote speaker Louise Davidson, Churchwide Vice-Moderator for Justice & Peace, Inclusion workshop and worship with kindness as the message.
 - A large number of CWS kits were collected.
- **Korean (KPW/SNE) and Eastern Korean (EKPW)** - *Min Wan Yim & Younhee Ho, Moderators*
 - Joint Mission Conference in September, "The past, present, and future of Korean Missions." Dr. Eun Moo Lee, speaker.

- Joint Prayer Meeting in November, “PCUSA, KPW/SNE, EKPW, Mission, America, Korea, 2nd Generation Korean-American,s and World Peace.”
- Joint Staff meeting in December. Reviewed 2008 year actions & activities and planned for 2009.
- **Hudson River** - *Faye Bishop & Judy Wason, Co-Moderators*
 - Fall Gathering “Bringing it Home: Mission around the World and Around the Corner.” Rev. Peggy Howland message “Live Positively” based on her trip to Kenya for the International Women's Summit on AIDS.
 - Theadore Grace Jackson was honored at the General Assembly for her commitment to living a life of faith.
- **Monmouth** - *Lori Evans, Moderator*
 - Fall Gathering “Our Heritage - Celebrating PW's 20th Birthday”
- **New Brunswick** - *Mary Potter, Moderator*
 - Fall Gathering special guest - Rev. Yousif Kodi from Sudan, their International Peacemaker.
 - Epiphany Luncheon featuring Kathy Ulrich presenting Women of Influence - a devotional presentation in drama and song profiling seven women of the Bible.
- **Newton** - *Sally Strusz, Moderator*
 - Fall Gathering “Celebrating Ministries and Memories” with PW 20th Birthday Party.
- **The Palisades** - *Barbara Van Tillburg, Moderator*
 - Fall Retreat - Peace and Justice in the World with leader Rev. Debra Given. Diane Nafash shared her video handiwork.
- **Southern New England** - Dotsie Shaw, Moderator
 - Fall Gathering featured speaker Kevin Carson on “Consciously Faithful...Cousciously Green”
 - Prayer shawls, blankets, quilts for hospital, ugly quilts for the homeless through Crossroads, lots of CWS kits collected & assembled, items collected and given to Ronald McDonald House., House of Hope, and Food Banks, cleaning supplies collected & delivered to local shelters.
 - Plant sale for an orphanage in Nicaragua, Soup sale for heating assistance funds.
- **Utica** - *Patricia Parker & Karen Stockton, Co-Moderators*
 - Fall Gathering in October observed Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- **Utica & Cayuga-Syracuse**
 - Joint Fall Retreat at Vanderkamp on Lake Oneida
- **West Jersey** - *Neola Reese, Moderator*
 - Fall Gathering celebration of the 20th anniversary of PW. Program “Ministry of Memories - Celebrating Your History” presented by the Historical Society of Philadelphia.
 - Continue to knit baby caps, assemble kits for Robins Nest and Camden county jail, phone cards for soldiers.
 - Send money to local mission projects, PW in Cuba for school supplies, Mary Dawn Velencia in the Philippines, Milk Fund in Guatemala,
 - Help support missionaries Janet Guyer in South Africa, John & Paula Evers in Columbia, “Water Aid International, and Bill Getman for “I See Safe Water.”
- **Western New York** - *Marilyn Koszarek, Moderator*
 - Fall Gathering - Keynote speaker, Churchwide Vice-Moderator for Justice & Peace Louise Davidson.