

Synod of the Northeast Report to the Churchwide Coordinating Team

Virginia A. Champlin , Representative 2008-2011

March 2019-August 2010

25 PWP (including 2 Korean and 2 Hispanic)

Synod – Some Significant Actions and Activities – *Sandy Duncan Grillo, Moderator*

- All PWPs have been working on PPG (Presbyterian Partnership Group) PW Regional Gatherings: each a variation of the common theme “Gather at the River” and all being held on a shoreline.
- Annual Retreats: Healing in April/May, Spiritual in April, and Horizons Bible Study at Stony Point in May.
- Selecting of PWSNE members to attend: CCT Leadership Training in Florida (*Elaine Brown, Charlotte Hasselbarth, Maxine Hunter, Gladys Ortiz*); US Mission Experience trip to SD (*JoAnn Burrell*); and Global Exchange
- Variety of Mission Projects as varied as the women themselves. Many participate in Church World Services’ collections.
- PWSNE members on the CCT: Secretary Joanne Schnaudt, Members at Large Jenny Lee, Nydia Murphy-Leger, and Janis Quinn, also Gladys Ortiz on the Search Committee.

Fab Five PPG (Albany, Cayuga-Syracuse, Northern New York, Susquehanna Valley, Utica)

- Gathering held August 7 at White Eagle Conference Center, Hamilton on Lake Moraine
 - Keynote speaker the Rev. Pat Raube on the Revelation Bible Study
 - Workshop leaders Lynn Hasselbarth “Building Bridges Out of Poverty” and the Rev. Sandy Damhof “Digging Wells for a New Generation”
 - Worship led by the Rev. Betty Jones was held on the shore line of the lake
- **Albany** – *Gloria Ghirarduzzi, Moderator*
 - Jenny Lee, Global Exchange participant was the Spring Gathering Keynote Speaker
- **Cayuga-Syracuse** – *Susan Silliman Smith, Moderator*
 - Spring Gathering “Mission Everywhere” Sook Hee Bae, PCUSA Mission Worker in Seoul, South Korea
 - Women’s Choir of Pyongyang Presbytery, South Korea presented an evening of music
 - Rita Hooper shared her visit to New Windsor, Maryland for packing up Church World Services’ kits
- **Northern New York** – *Emily Castine, Moderator*
- **Susquehanna Valley** – *JoAnn Gray, Moderator*
 - Spring Gathering: “A Celebration of Mission!”- CWS, Mission giving, Celebration Offerings, sample of local mission projects and communion in the style of a love feast.
- **Utica** – *Jan Whiting, Moderator*
 - Spring Gathering Bohdam & Elizabeth Krop shared their ongoing ministry to the Ukrainian people

Metro PPG (Hispanic, Hudson River, Long Island, New York City)

- Gathering will be held October 1 at Holmes Camp and Conference Center
- **Hudson River** - *Faye Bishop and Judy Wason, Co-Moderators*
 - Spring Gathering was a retreat at Stony Point with Jane MacDonald leading in exploration of Celtic spirituality
 - 3rd year of stoles for the graduates of the Sing Sing Prison ministerial program (featured article appeared in May/June *Horizons*)
 - Continue to support mission projects for Kenya
 - The Rev. Margaret E. Howland was one of the women honored at Women of Faith at GA
- **Long Island** – *Kassie Chamberlain, Temporary Contact person*
- **New York City** – *Alpha Brown, Moderator*
 - Nearly 300 attended the “Women of Faith” recognitions and luncheon
 - Spring Gathering “Whose World Is It” God calls His people to use the earth’s resources responsibly by being good stewards. The Rev. Krystin Granberg, worship leader, “Yours, Mind, or God.” God wants us to take of his creation for future generations.
 - Participated in many health fairs that brought information to stay healthy and wise.
 - Highlight of the year was going to the many prayer breakfasts, worship with women in white, and celebrating the women in the Bible.

- **Hispanic** – *Paula Damiani, Moderator*
 - Participated and attended the “Women of Faith” recognition and luncheon with NYC

New England PPG (Korean, Northern New England, Southern New England, Boston in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont)

- Gathering will be held October 23 at Worcester, Massachusetts
- **Boston** – *Elizabeth Denier, Moderator*
 - Spring Gathering held at the Korean Church of Boston
 - “Signs of Hope in a War-Torn Country: A Presentation on Presbyterian Schools in the Congo” by Anne Crane
- **Korean** – *Hanna Cho, Moderator*
- **Northern New England** – *Joanna Damon and Beverly Hoover, Co-Moderators*
 - Spring Retreat “Making a Joyful Noise to the Lord!”
 - As part of The Heritage Project and Interview with Melva Geores former PWSNE Moderator was a featured article in their newsletter “The Grapevine”
- **Southern New England** – *Dotsie Shaw, Moderator*
 - Spring Gathering “How Stories Renew and Restore” with the Rev. Barbara Porizky

New Jersey PPG (Eastern Korean, Elizabeth, Hispanic, Monmouth, New Brunswick, Newark, Newton, Palisades, West Jersey)

- Gathering held, July 17th – Plenary speaker, Richard G. Bizub “The Pine Barrens: Up Close & Personal”
 - Sean Monahan, Esq. addressed some of the sacramental uses of water, a presentation on environmental issues involving water, its usage, contamination, and ways in which we can “reuse, reduce, recycle to the benefit and improvement of our landfills and water resources
 - Song fest on songs in which “river” was mentioned
 - Worship led by the Rev. Phyllis Zoon on Proverbs 3 to act in regards to the current environment crisis
- **Eastern Korean** – *Hyung Soon Byun, Moderator*
- **Elizabeth** – *Amy Aaroe, Moderator*
 - Helped promote the Youth Triennium through their PW Newsletter
- **Hispanic** – *Julissa Alvarez-Garcia, Moderator*
- **Monmouth** – *Lori Evans, Moderator*
 - Celebrating World Food Day. An ocean county food Bank.
- **New Brunswick** – *Janice Rockmore, Moderator*
- **Newark** – *Lorraine Cuffe, Moderator*
 - Spring Gathering – PWSNE Moderator spoke
- **The Palisades** – *Barbara VanTilburg – Moderator*
 - *Sophie Diaz Corporan* is the Presbytery Moderator and continues to serve on the PW CT
 - Spring Gathering: the Rev. Dr. Janet MacGregor Williams “God will Work Wonders Among Us.” Offering to ECPAT. Diane Nafash showed “Presbyterian Women” DVD.
- **West Jersey** – *Virginia Dowd, Moderator*

Western New York PPG (Genesee Valley, Geneva, Western New York)

- Gathering will be held September 26 at Camp Asbury on Silver Lake, Perry, New York
- **Genesee Valley** – *Gloria Hall, Moderator*
- **Geneva** – *Virginia Champlin, Contact person*
 - Spring Gathering “Camp Whitman, Now, and the Future” with Idelle Dillon, Camp Director
 - Day of Inspiration: Joanne Strike (Utica PWP) “PCUSA Trip to Fair Trade-Nicaragua”, Bible Study introduction by Rita Oestrich (visiting from Wisconsin), reports by young women attended Youth Triennium.
- **Western New York** - *Marilyn Koszarek, Moderator*
 - Moved Gathering & CT meeting start time to 10:30 and has made a positive impact
 - Added an action piece to each Gathering
 - Winter Gathering: Molly Anthony & Elaine Mattar told about Family Promise Ministry to the Homeless and John Harbison did the same for Journey’s End’s Ministry to Refugees
 - Faithful CT meets ten times a year, rotating host churches