

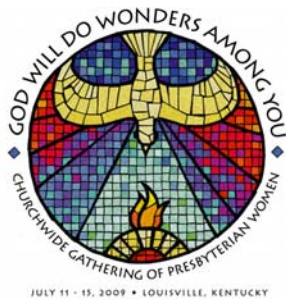


Churchwide Coordinating Team Meeting Summary

February 17–22, 2009 • Louisville, Kentucky

General News

- The CCT met February 17–22, 2009, in Louisville, Kentucky. Along with the usual business there were education modules on funds development, healthy transitioning, the HIV/AIDS pandemic and evangelism.
- Marta Rodriguez, Alice Wyatt and Chris Wolf, CCT moderator team nominees, attended the meeting as guests.
- Ruth Madrigal, the lawyer who is working with the CCT on incorporation, provided an overview of the articles of incorporation and bylaws that she has drafted on behalf of PW. She responded to questions from members of the CCT and met individually with anyone who had questions/concerns.
- The CCT celebrated the work of outgoing members—
 - Moderators: Catrelia Hunter, moderator; Louise Davidson, justice and peace vice moderator; Sherry Flyr, mission vice moderator
 - Representatives: Jennifer Ashbaugh, NNPCW; Micah Emerson, REYWT (not present at the meeting); Nancy Cabe, Alaska/Northwest; Ruth Williams, Mid Atlantic; Sharon Cely, Rocky Mountains; Shirley Nichols, Southwest; Judia Foreman, Sun
 - Racial Ethnic Members at Large: Mona Ajans, Middle Eastern American; Hagar Benitez, Hispanic/Latin American; In Soon Chi, Korean American; Mary Wong Leong, Asian American; Ruth Neal-Dixon, African American; Eveline Steele, Native American
 - Carolyn MacDonna, secretary; Polly Shafer, financial secretary; Louise Howe, historian; Carolyn Jordan, Search Committee moderator
- **The 2010–2012 CCT will meet for one day after the Churchwide Gathering in July. The next full CCT meeting will be September 2009 in Louisville, Kentucky. Veronica Green will provide meeting information.**



Churchwide Gathering

- The 2009 Gathering Planning Teams met in Louisville February 24–26.
- Scholarships to cover registration costs (\$380) are still available and the deadline has been extended. Please alert women in your area and visit the PW Churchwide Gathering Web site, www.pcusa.org/pwgathering, to download forms.
- Promote the Gathering! Now is the time to use any means you have to reach as many women as possible about the Gathering! Need registration forms? Contact Carissa Herold at Carissa.herold@pcusa.org or call 888/728-7228, ext. 5322.

Committee Information

Note: Task Groups and Committees written in italic report to the CCT through the CCT committee under which they are listed. Only committees and task groups with information for this summary are listed.

Administrative Committee

Catreli Hunter, chair

- The Racial Ethnic Dialog met in Louisville January 21–25, 2009. Dialogue centered on issues raised in the Women of Color Consultation Task Force report approved by the 218th General Assembly (2008). Members engaged in an in-depth dialogue among themselves about life experiences using the concepts of intersectionality, gender lens, and multiple identities. They then engaged staff members of various entities in dialogue about the significance and relevance of this report. The Dialog made several significant decisions with regards to membership structure, terms of service, and the design of its three-year dialog process. Beginning in 2010, members will begin and end terms together.
- By consensus, the CCT approved the articles of incorporation that will establish Presbyterian Women as an integrated entity of the PC(USA) if the voting representatives at the Business Meeting vote for incorporation.
- By consensus, the CCT approved new bylaws prepared for incorporation and will forward them as a recommendation to the 2009 voting representatives.
- The current CCT/PW bylaws, with changes, were also approved and will be forwarded to the business meeting for adoption if the incorporation is not approved by the voting reps.
- The following frequently asked questions were outlined:
 - **What is a publicly supported integrated entity?** PW is a charitable organization supported by the public that is integrated with the PC(USA). PW meets all of the necessary qualifications for this status.
 - **How will incorporation impact staff?** Staff eligibility to participate in the Board of Pensions will not change. The current staffing structure will not change.
 - **Why is PW choosing to incorporate at this time?** Incorporation will give PW the flexibility to operate as needed. In order to ensure good stewardship of PW funds in the current economic environment, it is important that PW establish clear and separate accounting practices.
 - **How will incorporation affect PW's relationship with the General Assembly Council and the PC(USA)?** PW will continue to be in covenant relationship with the PC(USA) through the appropriate entity.
 - **Will bylaws at congregation, presbytery and synod levels be affected?** No.
 - **When will PW be officially incorporated?** PW will be incorporated soon after the incorporation papers are filed.

Funds Development Task Group

Ellen Newbold, chair

- The task group met November 5–6, 2008, in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Blessings without Boundaries will be used as the theme for the 2009 Mission Pledge. The packet will be available at the Churchwide Gathering in July.
- By consensus, the CCT agreed to make the Funds Development Task Group a committee of the CCT. Funds Development will continue to report through the Administrative Committee. The job description for the committee was approved.
- A member of the Funds Development Committee will serve on CMOC.
- A funds development associate position will be added to the PW staff.
- Contribution envelopes for the Mission Pledge will appear in the 2009–2010 *Horizons* Bible study and May/June 2009 issue of *Horizons*. A Thank Offering envelope will appear in the July/August 2009 issue and a Birthday Offering envelope will be in the January/February 2010 issue.

Communications Committee

Mary Jorgenson, chair (see committee reports below)

Translation Committee

Eveline Steele, chair

- The Translation Committee met in San Francisco November 1–2, 2008.
- For future meetings, the synod representative for Puerto Rico will be invited. Also, members of the committee are Racial Ethnic Members at Large who rotate off the CCT together in July. In order to stagger terms, two members of the committee will remain on the committee for an additional year in order to establish classes for the committee.
- Various promotional efforts will be pursued to increase sales of translated resources and to increase participation of racial ethnic PW groups in Mission Pledge, Celebration Giving, *Horizons* subscriptions, etc. Partnerships will include work with PC(USA) congregational enhancement offices, racial ethnic members-at-large, and racial ethnic PW leaders.
- At the Gathering, the *Horizons* space will host “Pentecost Corner,” a table/area staffed by Translation Committee members and other volunteers—will answer questions about translations and offer list of resources in each language (other than English).
- A translation request form is now available (on Google Groups page and from PW staff). Form is for translation of English resources into other languages. By November 2009, a form requesting translation from languages other than English into English will also be available.

Bible Study Committee

Ruth Williams, chair

- The Bible Study Committee met February 18, 2009, in Louisville, Kentucky, preceding the CCT meeting.
- The committee selected Nancy Benson-Nicol as the author for the study on the epistles (2012–13) and immigration as seen through *Exodus* and *Deuteronomy* as the topic for the 2013–2014 study.
- *Joshua: A Journey of Faith* by Mary Mikhael, the 2009–2010 Bible study will be available March 15.
- The *Joshua* Workshop for Leaders and the promotional flier are available in printed form and as downloadable documents.

Horizons Editorial Committee (HEC)

Louise Davidson, chair

- HEC met October 14–15, 2008, in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Upcoming themes: 2009—March/April, Global Exchange; May/June, Recreation; July/August, Security in the Midst of Violence; September/October, Hospitality and Community and Gathering highlights; November/December, The Transforming Church.
- HEC continues to work on subscription price testing. The committee met by conference call on February 9 and will make a pricing decision at the March 2009 meeting.
- Some departments are being retired. New columns will be introduced after July/August 2009.
- Charlotte Johnstone is retiring. Her last column will be in the July/August 2009 issue.

Creative Ministries Offering Committee (CMOC)

Hagar Benitez, chair

- CMOC met February 27–28 in Louisville, Kentucky.
- 27 Thank Offering projects were funded, totaling \$684,900.
- The July/August 2009 issue of *Horizons* will spotlight the recipients.

Finance Committee

Polly Shafer, chair

- The CCT received the December 31, 2006, audit prepared by Crowe Horwath, LLP.
- The CCT approved a \$10,710,000 proposed budget for the 2010–2012 triennium.
- The CCT agreed by consensus to adhere to the federal guidelines for mileage reimbursement—\$.55 per mile for business miles; \$.24 for medical and moving purposes; \$.14 for charitable service.
- In the next triennium, the CCT budget will be moved from a calendar year to a fiscal year (July 1–June 30), if the way is clear.

History Committee

Louise Howe, chair

- **History Committee Visits Columbia Theological Seminary library:** The committee held its fall meeting at the John Bulow Campbell Library of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, where our PW in the Congregation histories are now stored. Committee members were impressed by this excellent, well-maintained facility; we received a warm welcome from Archivist Chris Paton and the library staff, who are excited about their new relationship with PW.
- **2009 PW Heritage Fair:** In keeping with the Great Room’s outdoor garden theme, the Committee has selected an art fair theme for the history exhibit. This will include a journaling area and a “time capsule” of 20th anniversary memorabilia in anticipation of PW’s 40th anniversary celebration. Every presbytery and synod PW group has been invited to bring an item to contribute. Be sure to visit the fair when you are in the Great Room. Presbytery and synod historians attending the gathering are warmly invited to volunteer as hostesses in the exhibit (see the check box on page 23 of the Registration Booklet).

Justice and Peace Committee

Bobbie Rubin, chair

- **Colombia Accompaniment Program:** The program is a ministry of presence with churches and human rights leaders in Colombia who are facing harassment in their communities. The program is seeking volunteers who will spend at least a month in Colombia to offer solidarity and spiritual support. For information contact sarah@presbypeacefellowship.org or visit www.presbypeacefellowship.org/two/colombia/accompaniment.
- **US Campaign to Ban Landmines and Cluster Bombs:** The campaign urges US citizens to ask President Obama to support the Mine Ban Treaty and the Convention on Cluster Munitions, joining other nations that have already signed the treaties banning these instruments that destroy innocent human lives.
- **Family Care Plan:** The Presbyterian Office of Immigration Issues has created a *Family Care Plan* for congregations that work with people whose immigration status is unknown. The purpose of this packet is to provide a plan to ensure that those who may be detained by law enforcement can make provision for their families. This can be downloaded in English or Spanish from www.pcusa.org/immigration.
- **Peace Notes:** Published by the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program *Peace Notes*, a quarterly newsletter devoted to peacemaking issues, may be read online at pcusa.org/pubs/pubs.htm#1.
- **PW Water Bottles:** To support PW’s desire to discourage the use of plastic water bottles that pollute the environment and to encourage the use of tap water, the Justice and Peace Committee is producing stainless steel water bottles with the PW logo and web address. These will be available for purchase at the PW Resource Center at the Gathering.

Leadership Enhancement Committee

Mary Wong Leong, chair

- In light of the feedback LEC has received from the synod representatives on CCT on the effectiveness of the 2007 Leadership Training event, a work group has been formed to explore a variety of options for leadership training in 2009-2012.
- A joint conversation between the Leadership Enhancement Committee and young women from REYWT and NNPCW led to mutual interest in developing an intergenerational dialogue in order to build relationships and mutual trust between young women and PW.
- Two grant applications were funded by LEC for the Sisters Stand and Walk Together Program: one for Synod of Pacific and one for the Synod of Mid-Atlantic. These two synods are taking different approaches to leadership training for racial ethnic and immigrant women, and LEC is excited about their ambitious and creatively proposed programs.
- All PWCs are encouraged to find ways to inform their own congregations about PW ministries. These may include: minute for mission, report to session and congregation meetings, etc. It is hoped that these efforts would help increase the level of awareness of and support for PW as an organization and its ministries in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), especially among women.
- Find out more about the Leadership Enhancement Committee at the Churchwide Gathering. Information and leaders will be at the CCT Patio Wonderland in the Great Room.

Newly Retired Women's Task Group

Mary Lou Williams, chair

- The task group met in Louisville September 25, 2008.
- The CCT agreed that “Newly Retired Women” is the recommended emphasis for 2009–2012. PW groups will be encouraged to focus on identifying and welcoming newly retired women to PW and recognizing their gifts, and serving their needs. The recommendation will be forwarded to the Business Meeting in July.

Mission Relationships Committee

Judia Foreman, chair

- **Palm Project:** In addition to the \$20,000 initial seed money for the Congo Palm Project, an additional \$57,284.35 has been received for Palm plants. In addition, \$8000.36 has been received for mattresses and \$24,189.70 for bicycles. This greatly exceeds our original goal of \$60,000 during the triennium. Of this money received, \$84,540.93 has been disbursed.
- ***Together in Service* Guideline:** MRC has suggested modifications to the *Together in Service* guidelines. These modifications will ease with receiving and distributing monies. Changes will be published on the web site by the end of March and the included in the next printing.
- ***Together In Service* Web Updates:** New stories and pictures from local PW groups will be regularly updated on the TIS web pages beginning March 1.
- **Study Tours:** Planned trips for 2010 include: Global Exchange return (14–15 days) in Czech Republic, Hungary and Ukraine in May or October; Moscow and St. Petersburg (10 days) in September; Geneva and Southern France (8 days) August 31–September 8. Planned for 2011: USAME return to US/Mexico Border; Egypt (15 days) in February/March; Congo (10 days) in April/May or September. Specific information will be provided at the Gathering and on the PW web site by May 15. **The study tours are self-funded.** It is hoped that women will share their experiences, **BUT PW funds SHOULD NOT be solicited.**
- **PDA work trips:** RHINO May 17–23, 2009 (Sherry Flyr, facilitator); Texas Gulf Coast hurricane relief—site and date TBA (Judia Foreman, facilitator); Iowa Flood Relief—site and

date TBA (Mary Jorgenson and LaDonna Fay, facilitators). RHINO trip registration is available on the web site (ABC sign up).

- **New MRC Projects**
 - *Nepalese Youth Opportunity Foundation*. This foundation brings awareness to and assists in preventing young girls in Nepal being sold to support their families by providing alternate means for family support. Referred from Justice and Peace Committee. \$2000 was allocated for this project.
 - *Immanuel House*, Debrecen, Hungary. This facility provides a day care program for children with special needs. Ceramic products are made by the children in the project and then sent out to be fired. An on-site kiln is needed. Referred from Global Exchange Committee. \$2000 was allocated for this project.
 - *Prábram Prison Ministry* outside Prague, Czech Republic. Some Global Exchange participants visited the prison. The project will provide musical instruments for prisoners to use in the chapel band. An Extra Commitment Opportunity Fund will be pursued to support this project.
- *Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study* is now available online as Podcasts, RSS feeds, email subscriptions, and at www.pcusa.org/missionyearbook. The 2010 yearbook will feature Presbyterian Women.
- **USAME**: The trip is planned for the Dakotas and will focus on Native American issues and the farming/food crisis. The date is tentatively set for September 8–17, 2010. The group will visit reservations, churches, and colleges and some historic sites. The cost is estimated between \$1500–\$2000 per person.

Global Exchange Committee

Ruth Neal Dixon, chair

- Global Exchange Committee participants reported on the trip to Central Europe.
- Remember to schedule the participant in your area as a speaker for an upcoming event. Contact information is in the March/April issue of *Horizons* or contact Kathy Reeves at Katharine.reeves@pcusa.org

Nurture Committee

Nancy Cabe, chair

- The suggested theme for the September 2009 meeting is “God will do wonders among you.”
- Stony Point Center in New York will sponsor Biblical Feasting: Eating the Bible, One Bite at a Time April 19–24, June 14–19 and October 18–23, 2009. The event will include field trip to Culinary Institute of America, ethnic bakeries, and local farms and wineries. Participants will savor biblical foods, gourmet cooking and spiritual hospitality. For more information visit www.stonypointcenter.org.

Search Committee

Carolyn Jordan, chair

- The slate of nominees for the 2010–2012 Churchwide Coordinating Team was published in the January/February 2009 issue of *Horizons*.

Site Selection Committee

Florence Morrison, chair

- Florence and Marlene Knight, PW Gathering consultant, reported to the CCT that several sites had been visited and considered for the 2015 Churchwide Gathering. The committee recommended Minneapolis as the site. The CCT approved Minneapolis by consensus.