



**Prepared by: Shirley Fine, Secretary
Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast
2010 Annual Report**

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PWSNE Moderator's Report

This has been a special year for Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast, a year with several innovations. For the very first time, instead of a small PW Synod Gathering held at Stony Point, each PW Presbytery Partnership Group held a gathering. NJ in July, Fab Five in August, Western NY in September and Metro and New England in October. Each shared the main theme "Gather by the River" and the scripture Rev. 22: 1-3. Then each group took it and soared!!! I attended each gathering and it was incredible to see how different the interpretations were. All were well attended and well done.

Normally, our big Synod of the Northeast Gathering would be held this year at The Desmond in Albany, NY but every three years Encuentro, the Latin/Hispanic national Presbyterian Women meeting is held in faraway places like Texas or Arizona, not only the same year but the same month! It was very difficult for our Latin/Hispanic sisters to attend both. We moved our big gathering back a year to 2011. Now we look forward to having many of our Latin/Hispanic sisters with us next summer in Albany so be sure to make them feel very welcome.

Another first, we had eight women from the Synod of the Northeast attend a training sponsored by the Churchwide Coordinating Team. They have returned and will be sharing what they have learned with us. They are excited to be bringing great new information on rejuvenating and re-energizing that hopefully will help all of us in our work with Presbyterian Women.

One more new thing, Jo Ann Burrell represented the PW Synod of the Northeast on a Mission Experience USA trip to South Dakota in September to meet, listen to, talk with and learn from our Native American sisters. I have heard her speak and she is awesome! Be sure to invite her to your next gathering.

We also supported the Spiritual Retreat in Syracuse, NY and the Healing Retreat in Mantoloking, NJ. We cosponsor the Horizons Bible Study, held at Stony Point, NY with Stony Point Center. All of these events are well attended and very much appreciated by the participants.


Sisters Stand and Walk Together, a leadership training program for immigrant women, is smaller this time but the women are very enthusiastic. They will graduate at next summer's synod gathering. We can all be proud of these women and this program.

I have visited quite a few more presbyteries, all the Presbytery Partnership Groups, attended Synod Council, Synod Assembly and PPG meetings. It has been a pleasure visiting and getting to know a great variety of women from all over the synod. As I have said before, many will be life-long friends. I have been greatly blessed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Grillo 

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast Finance Committee Report 

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast Treasurer's Report 

Representative to the Churchwide Coordinating Team Annual Report to the Synod of the Northeast

You have no idea how proud and humble it is to be the Representative from the Synod of the Northeast on the Churchwide Coordinating Team. This Synod PW is on the cutting edge of progressive thinking and doing. I have been so blessed to have known that I was in your prayers and you have been in mine. Our Synod has women and women's groups that are a true example of the Presbyterian Women's Purpose: faithful through prayer and Bible Study, supports mission of the Church worldwide, works for justice and peace, and builds an inclusive and caring community that strengthens our church and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom. I am just beginning my last year of this life altering three year term. Somehow, I forgot to report last year, so this is a two year report encompassing my entire term, to date.

For Churchwide PW, I have attended •

Four CCT meetings – first in Minneapolis, three in Louisville
Served on Leadership Enhancement Committee – both years
Preparing for the Leadership Training Event – planning conference in Charlotte and many conference calls
Served on Nurture Committee – last year including conference calls
Serving on Communication Committee – both years
Serving on Horizons Editorial Committee – attending three Face to Face Meetings and one conference call – serving as Chair this year and next
Attends Chairs & Synod Representative meetings
Serving as Pianist for CCT – this past year
2009 Churchwide Gathering Hospitality Team – Youth Programs Liaison and Coordinator
Religion Communication Congress in Chicago
219th General Assembly in Minneapolis – observed the Procedure Committee
Serving on Site Selection Committee for 2018 Churchwide Gathering

In the Synod of the PW Northeast, I attended

Moderator's Training and Coordinating Team meetings – Stony Point and Albany
Utica Presbytery Winter and Spring Gatherings 2010
Cayuga-Syracuse Spring Gatherings – 2008 and 2010
Cayuga-Syracuse & Utica Fall Retreat – 2008
NY City “Women of Faith” luncheon & ceremony – 2010
Feb 5 PPG Regional Gathering – 2010
Geneva Spring Gatherings
2008, 2009, 2010 Fall Gathering
2008 Day of Inspiration
2009 and 2010
Design Team for Western NY PPG Gathering
In the absence of an elected Moderator for Geneva PWP, serving as the contact person
Attends as many as possible home church CT and circle meetings

In Geneva Presbytery •

Attends with Voice & Vote all possible Council and Presbytery meetings
Facilitated “What Is a Presbyterian woman” workshop – March 2010 Presbytery meeting
Served on the Triennium publicity and promotion Task group
Serving on the Presbytery meetings Planning Task groups
PCUSA Multicultural Conference in Chicago – May 2010
Plays organ/piano for home church early Chapel Services weekly
Attended home church discovery & planning retreat

Virginia A. Champlin 2008-2011 Term 

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Boston

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Boston held their Spring Gathering on May 2 at the Korean Church of Boston in Brookline, MA. We were happy to have Sandy Grillo with us for that occasion. Our speaker was Anne Crane, the Mission Coordinator for the Presbytery. Anne, the daughter of missionaries, grew up in the Congo. Her interest in that area has continued. She is part of an organization which is trying to improve education in the Congo. Her presentation was entitled, "Signs of Hope in a War-Torn Country: A Presentation on Presbyterian Schools in the Congo."

Much of the year has been devoted to the PPG event which will take place on October 23. This will serve as our fall gathering.

Beth Denier 

Annual Report for PW of Cayuga-Syracuse

This has been both a difficult and exciting year for Presbyterian Women in Cayuga-Syracuse. Many in our leadership have been dealing with health issues either for themselves or family members. And many of us find ourselves over-extended. But we continue forward with that good old Presbyterian adage – ‘we can do it – we can still do it – who said we couldn’t do it? – we is Presbyterian Women!’

Our Spring Gathering was held the week that we had the Presbyterian Women’s Choir, from S. Korea visiting our Presbytery. Their 30 member choir including 3 liturgical dancers, performed for our Gathering and to the Glory of God. Our Presbytery had had a mission partnership with South Korea for 10 years. Our PW co-moderator, Susan S.-Smith, has served on the partnership team since the beginning and has kept PW in the loop. PW played hostess to many of these gals as they toured our area for a week. Only a few spoke English and not very well but the universal language of laughter and sign came into play and it was an awesome experience. I was hostess for the dancers, one of whom happened to be the purchasing agent for the choir so we spent quite a bit of time shopping for make-up and shoes (much cheaper here than in So. Korea,) and for fruit. We packed small bags of fruit for each person that went on the field trip to Niagara Falls. They sat on the floor to do this – needless to say – I sat in a chair. We had a big tray of fresh fruit that they prepared every night much as we would have cake and coffee. I tried eating with chop sticks (the Korean method of weight control) and decided I didn’t like seaweed!

We toured many of our churches, and visited in private homes and local nursing and adult homes. We visited the Korean War Memorial in Auburn, fruit stands and nursery schools. Some took in the sites of American Legion Halls and ‘Y’s,’ country music venues, rummage sales and one group even went to the dump (excuse me transfer station.) Everyone shared housekeeping and cooking techniques.

Also at the Spring Gathering, I did a power point presentation on my recent trip to the CWS Warehouse in New Windsor, Maryland. There were several PW on the trip, which was sponsored and run out of the Syracuse Office of CWS. By the way Amy Manning of that office will have a table at the Synod Gathering in July. I encourage all those who support CWS to take this trip – it makes it so much easier to ‘sell’ CWS when you see it in action. Opps I almost forgot – we worked for SERV too!

In early August we had our PPG meeting at a conference center in Hamilton, NY. I believe there were about 50 in attendance from the Fab 5 (Susquehanna Valley, C/S, Utica, Northern NY and Albany) with 4 of our presbyteries represented. Rev. Patricia Raube brought the keynote “From the Garden to the City” which presented a great beginning for the Revelation Bible Study, the Horizon study for the year. Lynn Hasselbarth did a workshop “Building Bridges out

of Poverty” based on her trip to Peru as a Young Adult Volunteer and her work with the Family Life Center in Schenectady.


Rev. Sandy Damhof serves as Director of Protestant Campus Ministry and is the founder of a new church in Slingerlands. She provided some valuable insights into how to more fully include young adults in our faith communities. Rev. Betty Jones, a most loyal and ardent supporter of PW joined in the communion service with Rev. Raube.

As has been our tradition for many years, we once again participated with Utica PW in our annual fall retreat at Vanderkamp. Our theme this year was a Spiritual Feast with Chef Rev. Dr. Lise Worthington of Stony Point. It included some actual food preparation as we prepared for the first ever Pie Baking Contest to be held at camp! She brought home to us the significance of food in a spiritual sense.

A little more than half of our PW’s participate in some way in Together in Service. I’m sure more churches do mission work but don’t report it to PW. A number support On Point for College which helps disadvantaged teens to get into college and provides whatever they need to keep them there from backpacks to silverware. Some are involved in the Refugee Resettlement Program in Syracuse and many works on CWS kits and CROP Walk.

We still wrestle with the question of new members and how to get them, and now we face the crunch of leadership as our CT faces the question of aging and retirement moves. We ask for your prayers as we pray for you.

Rita Hooper
Co-Moderator C-S

PS – See you at the Desmond – July 22-24, 2010. It’s time to Rise and Shine so start saving your pennies now! 

Eastern Korean Presbyterian Women 

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Elizabeth 

Annual report from Genesee Valley PWCT 10/10

This past year we have worked together with our PPG partners to present a gathering 09/25/10. The event focused on water and ways we can protect it. The Western New York PPG is unique because we share the Great Lakes as our watershed. The event held at Camp Asbury on Silver Lake was well attended and women were glad they came.

Genesee Valley PWCT has had a year of review and hopefully renew. We are looking at ways to assist the pw’s congregations with information and ideas to think out side the box when it comes to pw in their churches. Many of our churches do not have active pw’s and we are trying to promote smaller group events to include neighboring churches. Large Spring and Fall gatherings do not fit and are not well attended in our Presbytery. The smaller grouping is more pertinent and workable as the churches involved have similar concerns and issues.

I want to thank my CTPW for staying on while we try to rethink our mission as we are few in number and we all have held our positions for some time. I am hopeful with a new approach we will be more effective and will continue to support women in their local churches. The PW in Genesee Valley is alive and does wonderful things and I am proud to be moderator for them.

This year we were proud to give money to support, Aurora House, a new hospice house in western Monroe County. The house will provide a home like setting for terminally ill patients. They have 350 volunteers signed up to provide services to the house and its clients. We also gave money to one of the first homes to help support, women veterans as they return from active duty in our armed services. The house is the first to be built in our Presbytery. It will help women return to their lives after serving their country with emotional, educational and social support. CTPW could not think of a better peace and justice mission then to offer a gift of money to the Zion House.

Please keep us in your prayers as we move forward. I believe in pw and I know our women are doing a great job within their congregations. I want CT in GVP to be alive and well so we can offer support and assistance when they need it.

Yours in Christ,

Gloria Hall 

Geneva Presbytery Presbyterian Women
Annual Report to the Synod of the Northeast - July 2009-June 2010

Gatherings

Day of Inspiration, Wednesday, September 2, 2009 @ Camp Whitman on Seneca Lake

Keynote – Rev. Tim and Ann Johnson “Palestine As We Saw It”
Opening Devotions – Rev. Ellen Johnson
Closing Devotions – Rev. Anne Waasdorp
Introduction to the 2009 Bible Study “Joshua” led by
Rev. Earl and Sandy Arnold (Cayuga-Syracuse PWP)
Dish to Share lunch
Tour of Camp by Camp Property Manager Christopher Ruthven

Fall Gathering - “The Wonder of Community”, Thursday, October 22, 2009 @ Ovid Federated

Keynote – Cheryl Gee – migrant workers in our community
Recap and overview of Churchwide Gathering “God Will Do Wonders Among Us”
Horizon Skit
Worship, Communion and Dedication of Thank Offering & Least Coin
– Rev. Diane Walker

Spring Gathering, Saturday, April 24, 2009 @ Watkins Glen

“Camp Whitman Then, Now, and the Future” – Idelle Dillon, Camp Director
Donations received from the Camp Whitman “Wish List”
Birthday Offering Received & Dedicated
Horizons skit, Campfire songs, and campfire
Election & Rededication of Officers, Budget approved
Worship – Rev. Bev Lyon-Karr

“What is a Presbyterian Woman” workshop held during the March Presbytery Meeting @ Lyons
Beyond Geneva Presbytery PW

JoAnn Braun serves as Historian to Synod of the Northeast
Virginia Champlin serves as Synod Representative to Churchwide Coordinating Team
Lois Carter served as Chair of 2009 Churchwide Gathering
Carol Limner served as Geneva Presbytery Delegate to Churchwide Gathering

Moderator attends with Voice & Vote to General Council & Presbytery meetings

-The Geneva “Link” is our Newsletter, published 3 times a year.

-Our Coordinating Team is lacking an elected Moderator, therefore the Coordinating Team has divided the tasks and responsibilities.

-Our Women continue to be faithful to the purpose of PW with prayer, Bible Study, a caring & inclusive community of faith, and dedication to mission work and the church.

Virginia A. Champlin, Reporting 

Hispanic Presbyterian Women New Jersey 

Hispanic Presbyterian Women New York 

**HUDSON RIVER PRESBYTERY PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
2009 – 2010 Annual Report**

During this past year we have refocused our priorities AND simplified the role of our Hudson River PW. We have decreased our events and will be using the “retreat” format for those we do plan. This is a result of an interest survey done at our February Ash Wednesday Retreat. In addition the busy lives of our CT members have resulted holding fewer planning meetings. This past year we have held 3 meetings of our Coordinating Team to plan events and to work together in encouraging women in all churches, with or without an active PW, to take part in the programs we plan.

We have made concerted effort to communicate via e-mail, creating an expandable YAHOO GROUP for sharing information regularly with 140+ women. In the YAHOO GROUP we are attempting to include at least one contact person in each of the 89 churches in our large Presbytery. In addition, we keep current activities, a directory and calendar posted on our web page that is part of the Hudson River Presbytery site hudrivpres.org.

Last July 15 members of our Hudson River PW attended the well-done, wonderful PW National Gathering in Louisville “God Will Do Wonders Among You.” This time of inspiration encouraged us to continue sharing with our sisters in Hudson River the primary message of PW as an organization of women who focus on mission.

Saturday, November 14th, we held our FALL GATHERING at the First Presbyterian Church of Ossining. The theme “Healthy Bodies, Spirits and Communities” featured a local parish nurse, a time of sharing various mission projects and information about the Presbytery-wide Prison Partnership program.

Our 8th annual Ash Wednesday Retreat was held at the Stony Point Center. 30+ women were led in the exploration of prayer in our lives by Rev. Nancy Asbury. This set the mood for using prayer daily during the Lenten Season. Wonderful handouts from *Presbyterians Today* and original work from Nancy were part of the program.

Rather than our usual format for a Spring Gathering we experimented with holding a second retreat at Stony Point on Tuesday, June 1st. Our Synod sister Jane MacDonald did a fine job of leading our women in the exploration of Celtic spirituality. This was well received.

We continue to support mission projects such as two in Kenya that are the good works of Odrine and Rose, women we met at the 2006 Gathering; stoles for the graduates of the Sing Sing ministerial program...our 3rd year for this activity shared by different PW groups; and donations to the Rural and Migrant Ministries, our Presbytery Prison Project; and the construction of a handicap ramp at the Haverstraw church, which had hosted a recent Gathering.

Now we are planning and looking forward to a unique Fall Gathering. We have led the planning process for our PPG (LI, NY and Hudson River) to come together for a one day event at Holmes Camp and Conference Center. Rev. Nancy Thornton and Rev. Cathy Surgernor are our leaders for the day with the theme "Let Us Gather at the River."

Report from Co-Moderators Faye Bishop and Judy Wason

July 30, 2010

Presbytery of Hudson River

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

JULY UPDATE – E-News

Our summer began June 1st with an inspiring day at Stony Point Center. Our Synod friend, Jane MacDonald, presented us with an enlightening program based on Celtic Spirituality. Thirty women from 8 churches enjoyed the day.

The May-June issue of our national magazine, HORIZIONS, is devoted to *Incarceration: A Christian Response*. On page 31 is an article "Graduating Into the Challenges of Life" written by our co-moderator Judy Wason. It tells about our ongoing project of creating stoles for men graduating from the yearlong certificate program in ministry at the Sing Sing Prison. This is the third year a PW group in our Presbytery has helped and we have a group planning to create 20 stoles for next year.

While on the MISSION topic, Cathy Janus our CT team member for TOGETHER IN SERVICE would like to get a handle on just what individual groups are doing in the mission area. Have you had a successful fund raiser, a mission trip or rummage sale?

Cathy's e-mail is cappie3_5@verizon.net (Note the underline between 3_5). As for mission on the Presbytery level, we have again supported two worthy projects in Kenya: Safe Mothers and the Guest House. Our sisters from Kenya, Rose and Odrine, whom we met at the 2006 PW National Gathering, appreciate our continued support.

Yearly we send out requests to all groups for financial support for our Hudson River Presbytery PW, the Synod of the Northeast PW and for our National PW. To date we have heard from 17 churches with pledges or donations. (In 2006 there were 26 groups giving financial support.)

It is not too late to support PW on all levels in 2010. 

Take note of our PW web page when you search www.hudrivpres.org.
Presbyterian Women is located under Congregation & Mission ministries.

Korean Presbyterian Women

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Long Island

The Presbyterian Women of Monmouth Presbytery

It was an exciting year for Presbyterian Women of Monmouth, as we dedicated the Thank Offering at our 2009 Fall Gathering at the Belmar Presbyterian in Belmar, NJ. We enjoyed the Reverend Elizabeth Edwards, Parish Associate from the Toms River Presbyterian Church and is a retired professor from Princeton Seminary. Rev Edwards led us in an adventurous way of learning about our 2009-21-010 Horizon Bible

Our Spring Gathering 2010, we gathered at the 1st Presbyterian Church in Mansquan, to hear an overview of the 2010-2011 Horizon Bible Study on "Revelation" led by the Rev. David Cotton, Parish Associate at Mansquan. Rev. Cotton is also, chaplain at New Jersey Shore University Hospital. Our theme was the "Tree of Life." We asked all PW'S to bring what they do in mission in cutouts of hearts, trees, and other small things to hang on the Tree of Life of Presbyterian Women, also included in the program at lunchtime was a viewing of a film on the Tree of Life and celebrated the giving of our birthday offering.

In response to the disaster in Haiti, we donated \$500 to the PDA.

We are looking forward to our 2010 Fall Gathering October 16th. We are having two speakers, The Rev. Phyllis Zoon, the Presbyterian Hunger Enabler, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Linda Keenan, from Monmouth and Ocean County Food Bank. We are asking all women to bring 1 non-parish-able food item for the food bank. Dedicating our Thank Offering, we will be celebrating Holy Communion together.

We look forward to studying revelations and look forward to learning about our next study on the "Beatitudes" 2011-2012, as PW runs up the mountain top.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lori Evans,

PW Moderator of Monmouth Presbytery

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of New Brunswick
Annual Report for July 2009-July 2010
To Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast

How did your Presbytery PW nurture faith?

Prayer and devotions are an integral part of all our meetings. We function as a faith organization and we seek to live out our faith by serving others as a part of Presbyterian Women. The popular Horizon Bible Study features many beautifully written prayers and art work which are coordinated with each of the nine lessons. The Bible Study Joshua was challenging and educational about interfaith issues.

How did your Presbytery PW support the mission of the Church world-wide (and locally)?

A large group of women entered the Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church on January 9, 2010 to find themselves at a Haitian Extravaganza set up to recreate the Caribbean island's culture, cuisine and handcrafts. Our speaker was Catherine Wolf, MD, Executive Director of the Friends for Health in Haiti. Dr. Wolf is the daughter of Virginia Wolf who has been a long-time leader in the area of Mission Interpretation. Dr. Wolf updated the group on the progress made toward building a new health care clinic in the rugged mountainous area in Jeremie where she practices out of a small part-time clinic. We are again endorsing this much-needed medical organization through the Birthday Offering.

Imagine our shock and surprise when only 3 days later we learned of the devastation and human suffering caused by the massive 7.0 earthquake which hit Haiti on 1/12/2010. In coordination with Dr. Wolf, her mother and CWS we began a campaign to collect badly needed hygiene and baby kits as well as additional articles. The response was overwhelming. We assisted in helping to subsidize the transportation of the supplies so that they would reach people desperately in need. For further information please see <http://www.friendsforhealthinhaiti.org>.

We have also continued the annual Christmas wreath sale which benefits Mission at the Eastward in Maine. A special event/reunion was in the works to celebrate this long-standing partnership but it had to be cancelled due to unforeseen staffing changes. The wreath sale continues to be a win-win holiday hit for all involved since it provides needed income for our friends in Maine while giving us some festive and fragrant Christmas greens to decorate our homes and/or churches.

How did your Presbytery PW build an inclusive, caring community of women?

Outreach is made to all churches by our newsletter, *The Pulse*. The moderator is a non-voting member of the Presbytery Council and also makes announcements at the Presbytery meetings. We also promote events in the weekly Presbytery electronic newsletter Monday in Ministry. In March of this year we had a half-day retreat in which we focused on our PW purpose and goals. In response to a perceived weakness in the area of caring community we are initiating a new program involving four interest groups consisting of worship/music, Bible study, hospitality and hands-on. We were blessed to have been led in the retreat by Rev. Joyce MacKichan Walker who is an active contributor to PW publications and serves on the staff of Nassau Presbyterian Church in Princeton, NJ.

How did your Presbytery PW witness to the promise of God's kingdom?

Guided by the Purpose, PW witnesses to the reality of God's present realm. It is amazing what can happen when individuals organize and have a vision and commitment to make a positive difference in a community and around the world. Examples are Cents-Ability and Fellowship of the Least Coin. We also seek to highlight the ongoing work of our local churches and support each other.

What types of programs were offered this year?

September 26, 2009 – Kingston Presbyterian Church – Women of the Bible in Drama and Song with Kathy Ulrich. Worship leader: Rev. Terri Cissé, Flemington Presbyterian Church.

January 9, 2010 – Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church – Haiti Extravaganza – opportunity to hear about the ongoing work of Catherine Wolf, MD as Executive Director of the Friends for Health in Haiti. Worship leader: Rev. Wendi Werner, Dayton Presbyterian Church.

April 25, 2010 – Ewing Presbyterian Church - Spring Gathering –
Introducing Cents-Ability by Rev. Marcia Mckillop. Hunger Action Enabler.
Jean Stockdale Executive Director “Who is My Neighbor? Inc.” a grassroots community agency with a mission to create neighborly care locally and globally based at First Reformed Church of Highland Park, NJ.

What are your plans for next year?

Saturday, September 24, 2010 10-2 Community Church of the Sand Hills, Kendall Park, NJ.

The theme is “Inasmuch as you did it unto the least of these you did it unto me.”

Worship led by hosting church. Guest speakers: Mary Gay Abbot Young, Director of the Rescue Mission of Trenton and the Rev. Lisane Fenton, Director of Elijah’s Promise Food Pantry.

We will also introduce the new program format for 2010-2011 and the PW Cents-Ability Hunger Program.

Epiphany Luncheon – January 8, 2011 at Dutch Neck Presbyterian Church.

The theme “Let us Talents and Tongues Employ.” Sharing from the local churches and incorporating our new format.

Spring 2011 – April 2 – To be announced.

Were there any new initiatives this year?

As a follow-up to our March retreat in which we focused on meeting the goals as stated in our Purpose two new initiatives were endorsed. In order to better promote a caring community we are launching a new program format: we will offer 4 interest groups to convene once a month between gatherings to plan a part of the gathering. We are also considering a possible mission trip to Haiti. We will continue to promote the Cents-Ability Hunger Program.

In order to honor the memory of our long-term treasurer Sheila White who passed away in January of this year we unanimously agreed to rename the scholarship administered by our Presbytery PW. The new name Prospect Street/Sheila P. White Scholarship. We now honor both the former church and also carry on Sheila’s life-long interest in education. The fund has been bolstered by a generous outpouring from many people whose lives have been touched by Sheila’s example of truly living out the PW Purpose. We are especially blessed to have Sheila’s sister Janice Rockmore as our new moderator.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Potter, Past Moderator *for*

Moderator: Janice Rockmore 

**Presbyterian Women in the City of New York
Annual Report 2009-2010**

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of New York City (PWPNYC) had a year of growth, a year of changes, and a year to welcome back those members who stepped aside for a short period of time. The Presbyterian Women in New York City has kept our purpose by nurturing our faith, building an inclusive caring community of women and keeping Presbyterian Women's Purpose alive.

The Fall Gathering theme was "Embracing God's Call" the Rev. Anna Taylor-Sweringen was the worship leader. At this gathering, we learned the acceptance of God's calling and how it should be an honor to discover God designs for us. This Gathering was also a homecoming for those who have moved away and those returning to PW. The workshops were "Self-Development of People" and "How Can PW Embracing the Call Together".

Elder Dr. Elizabeth Arredondo was our leader for our Mid-Winter Gathering celebrating the gifts of women at an awards luncheon became a creative way of building an inclusive caring community of women. The theme was "God Did Wonders Among Us". We bonded as sisters through dance, songs and sharing our oneness. We gave certificates and awards to 60 women who put their faith in action in church and community.


The Spring Gathering "Whose World Is It" was an exciting concept because God calls His people to use the earth's resources responsibly by being good stewards. The Rev. Krystin Granberg was the worship leader and spoke on yours, mind or God. God wants us to take care of his creation for future generations.

Our commitment to mission projects (Together in Service) reflects our community and worldwide projects. Our projects for sewing ministries are: knitting caps for newborns in local hospitals, making baby gowns for hospital overseas, and knitting and crocheting lap scarves for the senior citizens in New York City. We host baby showers for women in shelters and provide support for battered women. We also support global water for life in Angola, provide support for children in Brazil and very active in the campaign of the Mother's Day Cards that supply health need of mothers and children in Africa. The "Dress for Success Program" is off to a wonderful start receiving recognition from the community. We visited nursing homes and searched for those patients who enjoyed a good Bible Study. Our new project is to supply toiletries to safe horizon for young adults without homes.

Our highlight for the year was going to the many prayer breakfasts, worship with women in white, and celebrating the women in the bible. In discussing changes we found that change comes without fear, because God loves you, cares for you, and wants the best for His children. We participated in many health fairs that brought information to the community to stay healthy and wise. There were three women from this Presbytery who attended the "Commission on the Status of Women at the United Nations. The PPG Gathering will be held on October 2, 2010 in Holmes, New York.

One of our goals for the coming year is advocacy for children. As responsible adults, we must take care of our youth to ensure that they have a good education, food in their stomachs and that their human rights are met.

Respectfully submitted by

Alpha O. Brown 

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Newark 

Newton Presbytery – Moderator’s Report – 2009-2010

Our Presbytery, as many others, is struggling to find programs to interest women who are spread in many directions. We have about 30 churches, out of 61, who have women active in some form of PW activity. Many of the groups are not organized as PW’s but they are still doing a lot of mission work both in and out of their local congregations.

As a Presbytery, we are meeting in the fall and spring for Gatherings as well as two CT meetings a year. Our fall meeting was held at the Branchville Presbyterian Church. The program featured highlights of the Church Wide Gathering, a preview of the new Horizon Bible Study, and a presentation of “Ginnie’s House” – a safe place for children to go after being molested and worship provided by Brenna Nickel, the Synod’s Seminarian. Our spring meeting was held at First Church of Succasunna with the topic of “The Well Woman – caring for ourselves, caring for others”. We provided information on Parish Nursing, Global Women’s Health Issues and Carol Kleinrock, author of “It is what it is” and a breast cancer survivor spoke to us with a very uplifting message. At the meeting we also installed new members of the Coordinating Team, with Lisa Gray and Sally Strusz serving as Co-Moderators for one year to help the Nominating Committee continue their search for new leadership. In February we had our annual PWP retreat at Villa Pauline Retreat House in Mendham, NJ. The retreat was led by Linda Gadon, CLP and was attended by 40 women over the 2-½ days.

Every three years, Newton Presbyterian Women sponsor one woman from the Presbyteries of Kenya to attend the Church Wide Gathering. Last July Diana Wachira arrived in the US on July 2nd to spend a week touring and living with women of the Presbytery and then flew to the Gathering with Moderator Sally Strusz. It cost us about \$2800 to have her visit but is worth every penny in what we learn from each other. After the Gathering, Diana stayed in the US, at her own expense, to visit with her sister and her son, who she had not seen in 10 years.

Our local PW’s are active in sending annual PW Mission Pledges, Birthday and Thank Offerings as well as helping with local needs in their own communities. Many of the women hold bible studies, with at their church or with a group of churches. Knitting, crocheting hats, mittens, and scarfs are done for local hospitals and mission programs. One PW meets with an Interfaith group to make “Simple Quilts” to be given to homeless people. Five local PW groups are in the final year of supporting a Kenyan young woman attending college in Kenya. They have pledged various amounts adding up to \$2800 a year for her college expenses. This past year we were able to send a new computer to her for her final year and summer intern work. Someone in our Presbytery provided it in memory of a family member! Many of the local PW’s have begun to offer the program formerly called Nets for Mothers for Mother’s Day. Their congregations have “bought” into this program as gifts to honor their Mothers on Mother’s Day.

As a Presbytery and as local congregations, we have tried to live the PW purpose to the fullest.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Strusz

Moderator of Newton Presbyterian Women 

**Annual Report of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Palisades
2009-2010**

Nurture of Faith/Mission

Each meeting started with prayer and the lighting of the Christ Candle and ended with prayer and a Benediction by Kathryn Kelly, Spirituality Chair.

The Spring Gathering on April 24, 2010, *God will Work Wonders Among Us* was led by Rev. Dr. Janet MacGregor Williams, pastor of the West Milford Presbyterian Church met in Jersey City at the Claremont Lafayette Presbyterian Church. The meeting included Bible Study, Acts 6:1-7, *Seven Chosen to Serve*, with discussion in small groups and Worship based on the Gathering in July 2009 with the reflection, *A Ministry of Meddlin'* and Communion. The offering was designated to ECPAT. Diane Nafash showed her revised copy of the DVD *Presbyterian Women*. Willa Mae Taylor, Peace and Justice Chair, reported on the trafficking of women and the work being done by an ad hoc committee of the Presbytery of the Palisades to minister to teenage girls in Paterson, NJ. Our Fall Retreat was held on October 24, 2009 at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewater. *An Encounter with the Risen Christ: The Post Resurrection Stories* was presented by The Rev. Dr. Eileen W. Lindner, Connectional Presbyter for the Presbytery of the Palisades. Worship and Communion led by Rev. Lindner followed. The offering was designated to the Presbyterian Mission Fund.

Building an Inclusive, Caring Community of Women

Invitations have been extended to the Hispanic, Korean and Mideastern women within the Presbytery to be on the Coordinating Team and attend the Retreat and Gathering.

New Initiatives

We continue to show the 20 minute revised DVD, *Presbyterian Women—Our Purpose, Mission and Outreach* produced by our Communication Specialist, Diane Nafash, at our retreats and gatherings and to congregations within focus groups and at Synod functions. Also, we have planned CT Meetings, Retreats and Gatherings in churches which have small groups, to encourage these women to become involved.

Communication

Our newsletter, *The Patter*, is published in February and August. It was sent to the 54 churches in the presbytery by e-mail, when possible. Copies of *The Lighthouse* were included. (Note: 15 churches participate in PWP activities). Post cards are being sent to give a special invitation to the retreats and gatherings, a calling list has been established for personal contact to churches, flyers are available at the registration table and an announcement is made at the stated presbytery meetings.

Presbytery involvement: Sophie Diaz Corporation, our Vice Moderator and Program Chair, was installed as Moderator of the Presbytery of the Palisades in January for 2010-2011 term of office.

The future: Dates and meeting places have been set for the Fall and Spring meetings. We plan to find ways to help women in small churches and recruit new officers.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara VanTilburg, Moderator 

Annual Report Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery Southern New England 2009-2010

The 2009 Annual meeting was held April 4, at the United Presbyterian Church, Milford, CT. Those attending the Churchwide Gathering in Louisville were commissioned during the worship service led by Rev. Chris Caton. Our speaker for the day was Jenny Lee, participant on the Global Exchange to Eastern Europe 2008. Lunch was served. No new officers were elected. By-law changes were discussed; it was moved, seconded, and voted to accept the changes. Thanks to Judy Cunningham and Molly Dean for this endeavor. Thirty-four women attended the gathering.

The PW Churchwide gathering was held July 11-15, 2009 in Louisville, KY. Eight from our Presbytery attended: Rev. Chris Caton, Judy and Dan Cunningham, Molly Dean, Jane Kimatu, Mary Kiriba, Roberta Mansfield, and Dotsie Shaw. Molly and Chris volunteered in the Great Room, Roberta was involved in the worship service, Molly and Dotsie were voting delegates to the business meeting, and Dotsie was in charge of the Global Exchange reunion breakfast.

The fall gathering was held on Saturday, October 24 at Christ Presbyterian Church, Springfield, MA. Honorary Memberships were given to Molly Dean and Jeane Clay, and Penny Webster received hers at the November Presbytery meeting. Rev. Eileen Epperson was the speaker. Her topic was "The Wonders of Prayer". The offering was presented to the Thank Offering and Save Our Kids, a program for under-served teens in Springfield. Thirty-one women attended.

The winter retreat was held in Putnam, CT on January 29-30, 2010 at the Immaculate Conception Convent, Putnam, CT. The co-leaders were Rev. Marilyn McNaughton and Rev. Lori Hedlund. The presentation was based on the book, *The Cup of Our Life*, a Guide for Spiritual Growth. Forty-five Hygiene kits were prepared and sent to Church World Service for the victims of the Haiti earthquake. Twenty-two women attended the retreat.

The 2010 annual meeting will be held on April 24, 2010 at Babcock Presbyterian Church, Ashaway, Rhode Island. The featured speaker/story teller will be Rev. Barbara Porizky. The title of the day is

"The Healing Power of Story"

How Stories Renew and Restore

We will have a worship service led by Rev. Porizky. Communion will be served.

The PW team will be "rededicated" to serve one year until April 2011.

Dotsie Shaw, moderator 2008-2010. 

**Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Susquehanna Valley
Annual Report 2010**

God continues to do wonders among us!! We have been blessed many times over this past year.

We have a group of dedicated leaders on the Coordinating Team. Two of our long-time members retired and we were blessed to have a new sister join the Team.


At our Spring Gathering we invited everyone to bring a sample of/or information about a mission project they are involved in. Our speaker was Amy Manning from Church World Service. We gave a quick overview of our Mission giving, Celebration Offerings, Horizons magazine, and answered questions that were puzzling folks about PW. We held a drawing for a free subscription to Horizons (this is done at each of our gatherings). Our day together ended with lunch and communion in the style of a love feast.

At our Fall Gathering the Rev. Pat Raube calmed our fears about the upcoming study of Revelation. She incorporated song, story, poetry and conversation in her presentation. Joan Wise-Hostetter led a workshop on the Horizons Bible Study, Journeys Through Revelation that further whetted our appetite for this study. I might add, the attendance at this gathering was one of our all time highs. The host church had never hosted a PWP event before. It was such a wonderful experience for all, so wonderful in fact that the host women have asked if they can host another gathering soon!

We have been blessed by the pledges from PW's in the local churches. During these tough economic times we are grateful that mission is still important to Presbyterian Women. Many local churches continue to be involved in local mission projects, Church Women United, and PCUSA projects.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to challenge us to grow and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the PCUSA and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.

Grace and Peace,
Jo Ann Gray
Coordinating Team

PWP Susquehanna Valley 

**Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery
Annual Report for July 2009 through June 2010
Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast
Utica Presbytery
Fab 5 PPG**

Moderator: Jan Whiting
Acting Vice-Moderator: Anne Reynolds

I. Gatherings

A. Fab 5 Gathering was held at White Eagle Conference Center in Hamilton, NY on August 7, 2010. The theme was "Gather at the River". Rev. Patricia Raube was the keynote speaker. Her presentation was entitled "From the Garden to the City: Revelation of Hope". Workshop Leaders were Lynn Hasselbath speaking on "Building Bridges Our of Poverty" and Rev. Sandy Damhof speaking on "Digging Wells for a New Generation".

B. Fall Retreat was held at Vanderkamp in Cleveland, NY on September 9-10, 2009. The program, Women of the Bible Alive: was led by Gloria Rink and Susan Corcoran

C. Fall Gathering took place at Forest Presbyterian Church in Lyons Falls, NY on October 14, 2009. Celtic Christianity led by Lorrie and Sherm Skinner was the program for this event.

D. Winter Gathering occurred at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Utica, NY on February 10, 2010. All attending enjoyed a Dewitt Jones video presentation and a covered dish luncheon.

E. Spring Gathering was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Lowville NY on May 12, 2010. Bohdan and Elizabeth Krop presented a program on their mission trips to the Ukraine.

II. Mission

A. Of course, our PW contributes to the Last Coin, Birthday and Thank Offerings.

B. We send checks to Emmaus House and Thea Bowman House in Utica, NY. These are safe houses and residents for unwed mothers. We also collect household goods for these residences.

C. Tidy Bottoms in Camden, NY is another program that we support. This mission provides diapers, clothing and other baby items to families in need.

D. Many churches in our Presbytery participate in the Mothers' Day Net Workers cards and the tea bag art projects.

E. Women of our Presbytery have been sewing and filling bags for school kits and sending them to Church World Service.

F. They have knitted and crocheted lap robes for the elderly.

G. We have been promoting the use of Fair Trade products such as coffee, and we have sold SERRV items at some of our churches.

H. Many women volunteer at our local VA clinics, area hospitals, Meals for Seniors, Girl Scouts, etc.


I. Many churches collect Campbell Soup labels and pledge to the Tools of Hope and Blanket Sunday Projects.

J. We have participated in the Blanket+ Program.

III. Other Joys

A. Our first Fab 5 Gathering was a huge success with 50 women attending.

B. Pam Gnagy, one of our own, has completed her studies at Columbia Theological Seminary and is doing her intern work as chaplain at St. Joseph's Hospital in Syracuse, NY.

C. Our Newsletter continues to be a source of information and inspiration thanks to our tireless editor. 

Presbyterian Women of West Jersey Presbytery Annual Report 2009 – 2010

One of the highlights of 2009 was attending the Church-wide Gathering of PW, July 11 -15, 2009 in Louisville, KY. The theme, “God Will Do Wonders Among You”, was a spiritually uplifting time with about 5,000 women and men from many states and countries. Our speakers and music each day were particularly uplifting to our group (six) from PWJ who attended.

On November 6 – 7, 2009 two attended a Moderator’s Training in Albany, NY for PW in the Synod of the Northeast. Our sessions were filled with informative issues to strengthen our missions, Presbytery Partnership Groups, Native American issues, Hispanic/Latino PW. We have 22 Presbyteries of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast.

Susan Smith (together in service) reports our PW in West Jersey Presbytery have been very busy with a wide variety of mission projects: Sheets for Malawi, Palm Project in the Congo, gift bags for women in the Camden County jail, health kits for migrant workers and many other mission projects.

Our Fall and Spring Gatherings' attendance has increased by 20% with more churches participating in our programs.

2009

April 25 PWP Spring Gathering – Haddonfield

Program – “A Biblical Feast in the Desert” Lise Worthington – Soul Chef

(Biblical Feasting: A recipe for life in the Biblical Tradition)

Exodus 16:1-19

Oct. 17 PWP Fall Gathering – Haddon Heights

Speaker – Lucy Janjigian

(She has lived a life in “Mission”)

2010

April 17 PWP Spring Gathering – Burlington

Program – “Women of the Bible Alive”

Performed by Gloria Rink and Judy Coleman

Oct. 16 PWP Fall Gathering – Laurel Springs

Speaker – Director Shakila Rani – about her work with Muslim women in

Pakistan who are victims of domestic violence

July 17 Presbytery Partnership Groups – will meet in New Brunswick, NJ


Program – “Gather at the River”

Plenary Speaker – Rich Bizub – Director for Water Programs at the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. Attached is a flyer with additional information.

In late February, 2010, the treasurer for PW - WJP for many years, Jane Miller, passed away, leaving a huge void to be filled in our list of officers. Fortunately we have a replacement, Esther Gauntt, who is picking up the task of this important office. Most of the information was in Jane's computer, which we cannot access at this time. We need assistance in setting up a new system. We ask for your patience with any financial reports at this time.

Our Presbyterian Women in West Jersey Presbytery are committed to prayer, bible study, and missions worldwide.

In Christ's Peace,

Virginia Dowd, Moderator 

Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of Western New York 2009-2010 Annual Report

It has been a journey of Faith; a year of challenge. Inspired by our Bible Study on Joshua, we have studied themes of Leadership, Promise, and Commitment, to name just three. 14 women from WNY discovered how “God Will Do Wonders Among Us” in Louisville at our Churchwide Gathering in July. Nine Churches pledged \$7465 and this is a report of what we have done. Our 2009 Spring Gathering at Deerhurst Presbyterian had 54 in attendance representing 19 churches. The Food Bank of WNY and Gleaners Program of Chautauqua County raised our awareness of the reality of hunger issues in our own neighborhoods. Our NEW 10:30 start time paid off as 68 of us representing 22 churches attended the Fall Gathering at MacAlpine Church. Janis Quinn, Amy Jelensberger, and the Motion Choir from Kenmore Church inspired us to embrace the “Winds of Change” and allow God's Spirit to refresh, renew, and heal us. Orchard Park Presbyterian hosted 54 women from 22 churches for our Winter Gathering. Molly Anthony and Elaine Mattar told us about Family Promise Ministry to the Homeless in WNY and John Harbison did the same for Journey's End's Ministry to Refugees. Our Faithful Board meets ten times a year visiting churches around the Presbytery to report, plan gatherings, inspire, and

fellowship with each other. PW in the Presbytery divides the local churches into 7 Clusters which are connected to the board by 8 Cluster Leaders; Joyce Bailey, Carrie Divine, Betty Johnson, Jeanne Kelly, Connie Lockwood, Gladys Newton, Marilyn Plache, and Sylvia Volk. They're the ones who invite you to Gatherings, listen to your concerns, and offer information on PW possibilities. Our HORIZONS coordinator, Elaine Hotelling, reminds us what a treasured resource our Churchwide magazine is. It has humor, devotions, a challenging Bible Study, Dedication Services for special offerings, articles about people and energizing topics, all to enrich your programs and personal spiritual life. (All for only \$24.95 a year!).

Priscilla O'Brien and LaPearl Haynes, our Missions coordinators, shipped thousands of dried tea bags, Campbell Soup labels, and cancelled stamps to their grateful recipients, and highlighted Mission projects our churches are doing in their neighborhoods and in the world. Also our Thank and Birthday Offerings and Pledges impact Missions tremendously because of PW's generosity. Justice and Peace Issues have challenged us to add an action piece to each Gathering. From post cards to President Obama, to gifts of fabrics and yarn, stamps, and kitchen utensils, we have found the women are most generous! Diane Eshelman is our Coordinator. PATTERNS, our PW Newsletter, is sent out to 250 contacts. Mary Myers has done a beautiful job of layout and production to get it out to the women in our local churches. This year's Search Team, led by Barbara Sykes, Mary Louise Berg, and Paula Jack, needs only an Editor for our newsletter to complete this year's slate!

As you can see, God has been present in our planning, presentations, and prayers.

Marilyn Koszarek, Moderator
Gladys Gifford, Vice Moderator/Spiritual Life
Jean Harper Treasurer

Mary Louise Berg, Secretary 