

# News and Information About Presbyterian Women and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



## Telling Our Stories Event

### Tending the Flame—Telling Our Stories October 6–9, 2006

Tending the Flame—Telling Our Stories is the culmination of a two-year-long celebration of women's ordinations to deacon, elder and minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The West Coast event, October 6–9, 2006, will focus on the stories of ordinarily extraordinary women who have responded to God's call. We invite you to come and share your story, too!

Opening ourselves to the idea of "once upon a time," we reveal those threads of our lives that connect us in ways that can surprise, delight and challenge. With her registration, each participant is invited to submit a 500-word story of her call, which will be combined in a devotional booklet to be used at the conference. Keynote speakers are Amy-Jill Levine, professor of New Testament studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, and Kikanza Nuri Robins, PC(USA) minister, upcoming *Horizons* Bible study author and organizational development consultant who specializes in leadership, change, diversity and spirituality. Bay Area pastors Veronica Goines and Karen Stokes will lead worship.

To register or get more information, contact Sarah Reyes, [sarah@bethelcpc.org](mailto:sarah@bethelcpc.org) or Stephanie Croom, [scroom@sfts.edu](mailto:scroom@sfts.edu).

Registration is \$265 before August 15, 2006, \$295 after that date. The fee includes all materials, two dinners and two breakfasts. Hotel costs are additional; the San Francisco Airport Marriott is offering rates of \$114/night (single or double). Visit [www.marriott.com/sfobg](http://www.marriott.com/sfobg) (enter registration code *npcnpca*) or call 650/692-9100 to make reservations.



## Help Shape a *Horizons* Bible Study!

The annual *Horizons* Bible study relies on help from members of Presbyterian Women. A committee of women, appointed by the moderator of the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women, selects a topic and an author for future *Horizons* Bible studies. Members of Presbyterian Women further aid in the development of the Bible study by field testing the first draft of a manuscript for the upcoming year.

Field test groups are usually selected on basis of diversity in May or June and applicants are contacted by July, letting them know whether or not their group was selected. The diversity sought includes race, ethnicity, size of congregation, age of participants, urban/suburban/rural communities and more.

If your group would like to apply to field test a future *Horizons* Bible study, contact Leah Bradley, senior associate editor, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396; 502/569-5366; [Lbradley@ctr.pcusa.org](mailto:Lbradley@ctr.pcusa.org).

Don't forget to get the new online resource, "Make the Most of Your Magazine," for this issue. The resource, available at [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons), will help you dig deeper into the articles and be ready to discuss them with your group or friends.

SarahLee Morris, a certified associate Christian educator and the resource center coordinator for Palo Duro Presbytery, offers creative ideas for discussing the articles in each issue, and recommends additional resources related to many of the subjects.

The resource contains a brief overview of why the theme is important to you, your faith or the world. SarahLee then provides programming suggestions on how to use the articles for personal or group study and discussion.

This valuable resource is only available online, and is completely free! Visit [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons), and click on the logo pictured above.



### Calling All Global Exchange and Churchwide Coordinating Team Alumnae

Renew friendships with former colleagues in an informal setting at the Global Exchange and CCT Reunion Breakfasts during the 2006 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women.

The Global Exchange Reunion Breakfast will be held Saturday, July 8, 2006 at 7:00 A.M. For more information or to sign up, contact Karen Fritsch, [dietmarkaren@comcast.net](mailto:dietmarkaren@comcast.net) or 970/513-9286. The CCT Reunion Breakfast will be held Monday, July 10, 2006 at 7:00 A.M. For more information or to register, contact Norma White, [mandn.white@att.net](mailto:mandn.white@att.net) or 505/828-9705.

### Update

As of January 1, 2006, the Board of Pensions has established an adoption assistance program that provides grants of \$3,000 to members of the benefits plan who adopt a child. The grant will be paid following receipt of the final adoption decree by the Board and is no longer limited to children who are less than one year old. This expanded program replaces the program referred to in "Finding Balance" in the January/February issue of *Horizons*.



### Embracing God's World . . . Again

Get ready for a newly revised resource—*Embracing God's World: Involving the Congregation in Mission*, 2nd edition! This handbook provides a framework and practical suggestions for ways Presbyterians can engage in mission today. It is designed especially for

- Presbyterian Women mission interpreters,
- pastors,
- educators,
- mission chairs and
- other individuals interested in promoting mission in their own context and around the world.

Learn what resources, program offices and opportunities are available to assist you in shaping mission involvement that is participatory, spiritually nurturing, socially responsible and built on the years of experience and integrity of Presbyterian and Reformed mission history. Find out from others' success what models work for recruitment, planning and evaluation of mission committee work. Discover what Presbyterian and ecumenical resources exist and how to obtain them.

The handbook provides a framework for growth through mission participation based on action, reflection and worship. Available through Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612 or [www.pcusa.org/marketplace](http://www.pcusa.org/marketplace); item 70-612-05-922; \$12.50 each plus shipping.



### Get Children Involved in Presbyterian Mission!

2006 marks the fourth edition of the *Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study*, which is adapted from the 114th edition of the *Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study*. This resource serves as a personal devotional guide for third through sixth graders and will help children learn more about

- being followers of Jesus Christ,
- the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and its mission and
- children in cultures around the world.

The *2006 Children's Mission Yearbook* includes scripture and prayers, games, puzzles, recipes, and a "word of the week," as well as many new activity ideas. Divided into 53 two-page weekly spreads, each spread contains mission stories and photographs about one domestic presbytery and one overseas mission locale. Like its parent resource, the *2006 Mission Yearbook* whose theme is "From Age to Age," this resource will invite young readers to explore how we as Christ's disciples are enveloped in God's unfolding narrative, from age to age.

The *2006 Children's Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study* is available through Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612 or [www.pcusa.org/marketplace](http://www.pcusa.org/marketplace); item 70-612-06-451; 1-9 copies, \$5.50 each plus shipping; 10 or more, \$4.00 each plus shipping.