

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



**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

July 11–15, 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Louisville, Kentucky!

Take note:

- The Business Meeting will be held during the Gathering, not prior to it as it was in 2006.
- The National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen (NAPC) will participate in the Gathering, holding a separate business meeting, but joining PW for plenary sessions, workshops and programming.

Bible Study News

The 2007 Bible Study Committee of the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women selected Barbara Rossing to write the 2010–2011 *Horizons* Bible study on the *Book of Revelation*. Barbara Rossing is a professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago and author of *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation* (Boulder, Colo.: Westview, 2005).



Meanwhile, the 2008 Bible Study Committee is seeking nominations for the 2011–2012 Bible study on *The Beatitudes*. The committee is looking for a Presbyterian/Reformed woman author who specializes in New Testament and is informed about women's issues. Nominations are due by February 1, 2008. For more information, contact Susan Jackson Dowd, 888/728-7228, ext. 5368, sjackson@ctr.pcusa.org, or download a nomination form at www.pcusa.org/horizons.

Mark Your Calendar

August 29–31

National Elders Conference,
Nashville, Tennessee
(www.pcusa.org/eldersconference)

September 9–15

Christian Education Week
(www.pcusa.org/christianeducators)

September 21

International Day of Peace
(<http://idpvigil.com>)

October 4–7

Racial Ethnic Young Women
Together Leadership Event
(www.pcusa.org/rejwyt)

Leadership Training Event

Last March, Presbyterian Women offered a leadership-training event in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Along with worship and community-building, the event offered forums, plenary presentations and leaders' workshops on topics related to Presbyterian Women. Six leaders from each synod participated; they will now help provide training in their own areas. Check with Presbyterian Women in your synod to find out when your training will be offered.

Florence Vargas



Ana Livia Rivera Bracero, Noemi Rivera Sangtiago, and Aurea Velázquez Rodríguez

Mujeres que Resplandecen—Women Who Shine

At the 33rd Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Puerto Rico, three distinguished women—Noemi Rivera Sangtiago, Ana Livia Rivera Bracero and Aurea Velázquez Rodríguez—were recognized and honored for their gifts of leadership to the church, and especially to Presbyterian Women.

Puerto Rico's Synod Coordinating Team (PW/SCT) resolved to recognize and honor an outstanding woman from each presbytery at the annual synod gathering, paying special attention to the contributions these women make to PW at all levels of the church.

Noemi, Ana Livia and Aurea were given Honorary Life Memberships to PW and presented with an award certificate and pin. Catreli Hunter, moderator of the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women, attended the synod event at Valle Hermoso Presbyterian Church in Hormigueros, Puerto Rico, and explained the meaning and value of this award. Presbytery moderators took turns reading a brief biography for the honoree from their presbytery. Then Noemi, Ana Livia and Aurea spoke of their experiences, giving all honor and glory to God.

The word *resplandecer* in Spanish is much more than *shine* in English. It means "shining with rays of light that illuminate everywhere." The same can be said of Noemi, Ana Livia and Aurea; ellas resplandecen!

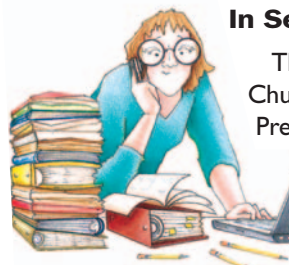
—Florence Vargas, moderator
Presbyterian Women in the
Synod of Puerto Rico

Come All You People

The 2007–2008 *Presbyterian Planning Calendar* invites you to join other Presbyterians in celebrating our life together. Photos and selections from scripture and *The Book of Common Worship* express our joy and common purpose: to share the love of God in Jesus Christ in word and deed.

To order, contact Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612, or visit www.pcusa.org/marketplace. Calendars are \$10.50 each; \$8.00 each for quantities of 10 to 49; \$6.00 each for 50 or more; plus shipping for all orders. When you order, ask for item 1-57153-082-7.

In Search of . . .



The Search Committee of the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women is looking for leaders for the 2009–2012 triennium. The leadership roles to be filled are

moderator, vice moderator for justice and peace, vice moderator for mission relationships, secretary, historian, search committee moderator and six racial ethnic members-at-large. Nominees should be energetic, capable, racially diverse women who can serve as visionaries, organizers, doers and leaders, who are committed to the PW Purpose. Candidates should work well as team players and be open to growth, change and travel.

To download a nomination form or learn more about the work of the Search Committee, visit PW's Web pages, www.pcusa.org/pw.

Search Committee 2006–2009 Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women

Eastern Region

Northeast, Puerto Rico

Elizabeth Torres Rodriguez

305/387-3707

elizat103@yahoo.com

West Central Region

Lakes and Prairies,
Mid-America, Sun

Shelly Woodcox-Unruh

817/329-1413

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East Central Region

Trinity, Covenant, Lincoln Trails

Nicole Johnson

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Western Region

So. Calif./Hawaii, Pacific,
Alaska/Northwest, Rocky Mtns.,
Southwest

Sheena Brooke

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Southeast Region

South Atlantic, Living Waters,
Mid-Atlantic

Sheila Louder

770/964-3872

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Moderator

Carolyn Jordan

205/823-1317

csjordan4@charter.net



Story Stoles and Parament

Looking for a creative way to engage the stories of *Jonah* and *Ruth*? Consider investing in a story stole or parament for Presbyterian Women in your congregation, presbytery or synod!

InStitches: Center for Liturgical Art has created two new story stoles and a banner, based on the 2007–2008 *Horizons* Bible study, *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*. These colorful, multi-textured pieces of fabric art are handcrafted, with appliqued and embroidered images to prompt the imagination.

Stoles have been worn by leaders and members of the Christian community for centuries to designate the yoke of Christ. The banner (often referred to as a parament in the church) is ideal for draping over podiums, pulpits and table fronts, or hanging on a library or office wall. All three pieces serve to keep the story alive each time you meet, study and worship together.

- Give a set of stoles to your pastor (especially if she leads your Bible study group year after year!).
- Give one to your outgoing PW moderator at the presbytery or synod level (a wonderful reminder of her year serving PW!).
- Buy all three and send them on tour among the PW groups in your city or presbytery.
- Use "Above and Beyond" as the theme for your next synod gathering and display the banner as art for your worship space and keynote presentations.

Jonah Stole—*Call and Response:*

The Story of Jonah (STPW 1)

100" long (will fit anyone 5' or taller), \$185

Ruth Stole—*Above and Beyond:*

The Story of Ruth (STPW 2)

100" long (will fit anyone 5' or taller), \$165

Jonah and Ruth Banner (PPW 3)

18" x 30" (standard size), \$195

Order from **InStitches: Center for Liturgical Art**

17092 Sunset Dr., Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

205/727-0092 (FAX)

www.institchescenter.com

Order forms (to mail or FAX) are available on the InStitches Web site.