

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



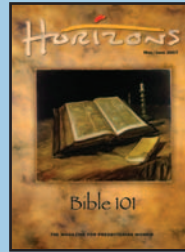
## Help Shape a Horizons Bible Study!

Before any *Horizons* Bible study is published, groups of Presbyterian Women review the manuscript, offering suggestions, comments and reflections on the author's first draft. These valuable comments help shape the Bible study into the engaging and inspiring *Horizons* Bible study that is published each March.

Applications are now being accepted for groups to field test the 2010–2011 study on *Revelation*, being written by Barbara Rossing. Groups will be selected in September 2008, and will read and respond to the manuscript between October 2008 and February 2009.

Selection will be based on enlisting as diverse a group of field testers as possible. 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 Ashley Meyer, PW Associate Editor, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40202-1396; 502/569-5366; Ashley.Meyer@pcusa.org; or visit [www.pcusa.org/horizons/bibleupcome.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons/bibleupcome.htm) to download an application.



## PW's Award-winning Publications

Associated Church Press and Religion Communicator's Council awarded *Horizons* and Presbyterian Women several distinctions earlier this year.

From Associated Church Press, the May/June 2007 issue of *Horizons*, themed "Bible 101," received an honorable mention for cover design; and Carol Gruber's article "Living In-between: Caring for Those Who Cared for You" (January/February 2007) received an honorable mention as a personally useful article. An honorable mention for Bible resources was awarded to the 2007–2008 *Horizons* Bible study, *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth* by Carol Bechtel, with Suggestions for Leaders by Joyce MacKichan Walker. Cecilia Amorcho Hickerson's devotional "Children of God" (November/December 2007) received an award of excellence for short devotional.

Religion Communicator's Council gave awards of excellence to the 2009 PW Churchwide Gathering logo, the *Becoming the Beloved Community: People of Faith Working Together to Eradicate Racism* DVD, and the audio edition of *Above and Beyond: Hearing God's Call in Jonah and Ruth*. The March/April 2007 issue of *Horizons*, themed "Living with Death," received an award of merit from Religion Communicator's Council.



## Presbyterian Historical Society

The Presbyterian Historical Society offers

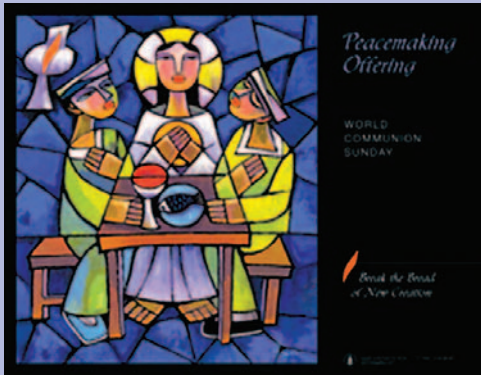
- ✓ **seminars on local church history.** Seminar topics include: Presbyterian history, oral history, writing a congregational history, managing and preserving congregation records, exhibit planning, disaster

preparedness and celebrating an anniversary.

- ✓ **heritage microfilming grants.** Grants are awarded to churches at least 50 years old with 250 members or less who are interested in preserving their history. The annual application deadline is November 1.

- ✓ **traveling displays.** Borrow a display about PHS' programs that assist congregations, presbyteries and synods in preserving and celebrating their heritage—mission work in various national and international fields; women in mission work; African American Presbyterian history; and the early history of Presbyterians in America.

For more information, visit [www.history.pcusa.org](http://www.history.pcusa.org), or email [refdesk@history.pcusa.org](mailto:refdesk@history.pcusa.org).



## 2008 Peacemaking Offering . . .

. . . received on World Communion Sunday, October 5.

According to John's Gospel, when Christ broke bread with his disciples for the last time before his death, he offered them peace. When he broke bread with two followers in the village of Emmaus after his resurrection, they were filled with joy and peace and hastened to spread the news that he was alive. Christ continues to reveal himself and offer peace wherever and whenever bread is broken and received in his name.

In the words of this year's Peacemaking Offering theme, "break the bread of new creation" on World Communion Sunday and celebrate the unity of God's people around the world. Live

consciously as a peacemaker, following the steps of the One who offers peace. Give to the Peacemaking Offering, received by most PC(USA) churches on World Communion Sunday, as one way to work for peace with other Presbyterians.

Congregations are encouraged to retain 25 percent of the Offering for local peacemaking activities; 25 percent goes to presbyteries and synods for joint peacemaking ventures; and 50 percent goes to the General Assembly Council's Peacemaking Program for work around the world.

For more information, and to order materials for interpreting the Offering, go to [www.pcusa.org/peacemakingoffering](http://www.pcusa.org/peacemakingoffering). Order an Offering packet (PDS 11142-08-280) by calling 800/524-2612.

## 218th General Assembly Women of Faith Awards

Three women chosen for their unique gifts of leadership within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) were honored with Women of Faith Awards from Women's Ministries at the 2008 General Assembly Sunday, June 22, in San José, California.

Magdalena I. García, Ann L. Hayman and Theodora G. Jackson received crystal ornaments engraved with the Women of Faith 2008 logo in recognition of lives that exemplify Christian commitment.

Nominations are received from throughout the church and honorees are selected by a committee of representatives from groups related to the Racial Ethnic and Women's Ministries/Presbyterian Women ministry area of PC(USA). The awards breakfast is a biannual celebration of God's activity in the lives of women and their response to God's presence.

## Celebrating Our History



Did you know that, in the 1920s, a Presbyterian woman physician discovered that lead was toxic? The woman was Alice Hamilton. Alice also was the first woman on the faculty of Harvard Medical School and is credited with founding the occupational health movement.

Alice Hamilton was born in New York City in 1869 and grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Her family was instrumental in founding First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne, Indiana, which is proud to claim her as one of its own.

After completing medical studies at the University of Michigan and in Europe, Alice became a professor of pathology at Women's Medical College, Northwestern University in Chicago. At this time, she became a resident of Hull House, Jane Addams' groundbreaking settlement house, which helped underserved people build responsible, self-sufficient lives for themselves and their families. Here, she divided her time between medical/social work in the surrounding community and research at the McCormick Institute for Infectious Diseases. During this time, she investigated steel and other industries for occupationally-caused lead poisoning.

In 1910, Charles Deneen, the governor of Illinois, appointed her to a commission to investigate occupational diseases. Later, she held similar posts on both national and international levels, and was instrumental in bringing about the first workers' compensation laws in the United States. Alice Hamilton was a pioneer in correcting medical problems caused by industrialization, awakening the country in the early twentieth century to the dangers of industrial poisons and hazardous working conditions. Through her untiring efforts, toxic substances in the lead, mining, painting, pottery and rayon industries were exposed, and the first federal legislation to protect workers was passed.