

Presbyterian Women
In the Synod of Lakes and Prairies

“The Wonders of God’s Promises”

*“He will wipe every tear from their eyes.
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain
for the old order of things has passed away”
Revelations 21:4 (NIV)*

**Buena Vista University
Storm Lake, Iowa
June 16-19, 2010**

HIGHLIGHTS
Worship and Music
Workshops & Focus Groups
Soul Desires Book Store
Ten Thousand Villages – Gift Shop

General Information

The Gathering begins with dinner
on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 5:30 p.m.
and concludes with a box lunch on Saturday June 19, 2010

All rooms are air-conditioned
Linens are provided
Meeting rooms and facilities
are handicapped accessible
Food is served in the college cafeteria

Full registration includes Lodging, Meals
and all Programming
Requests for roommates must be mailed together

\$250 per person in suite
(A suite has 3 double rooms, each with a bathroom)
\$230 per person in dorm room
March 1, 2010, until May 15, 2010

\$275 suite after May 15, 2010
\$255 dorm rooms after May 15, 2010

\$175 Commuter fee for Gathering
No Lodging
Includes program fees and meals

Refund of registration
(less \$30) if cancellation is received by May 20, 2010
After May 20, cost of meals will also be deducted

Key Participants

Marjorie Thompson, Spiritual Leader:

The Rev. Marjorie Thompson is an ordained minister of the PC(USA). She has developed a ministry in spiritual formation comprised of teaching, writing, retreat work and spiritual guidance. Her second book, *Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life*, was published in 1995. From 1986 to 2010, she served a full-time position with *The Upper Room* as director of the Pathways Center for Spiritual Leadership.

Louise Lawson Johnson, Bible Study Leader:

Dr. Louise Johnson has been an ordained PC(USA) minister for over 30 years. Her special love is studying and teaching the *Bible*. She wrote *Suggestions for Leaders for Horizons Bible Studies: Jubilee! Luke's Gospel for the Poor (2008-2009)* and *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today (2010-2011)*.

Caroline Vickery, Worship Leader:

The Rev. Caroline Vickery is currently serving as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, Nebraska. She has served churches in several states and has also been involved in campus ministry. In all times, settings and places, worship is a pleasure and a privilege.

Kristi Holler, Music Leader:

Kristi is a singer, songwriter, and pianist from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She has produced and recorded a number of CD's, such as "Daybreak," "Awake" and "Still with You." She received a bachelor's degree in liberal arts, and Master of Divinity and Master of Theology degrees. Her passion in worship and theology is through the art of music.

Workshops

1. *Change in America? Hope for a New Immigration Reality*

Julia Thorne

(Thursday A.M., Friday A.M.)

How are churches responding to new immigrants in our communities and the immigration system in our country? This workshop will provide attendees with all the latest information about immigration in the United States today, hopes for the future and how Presbyterians individually and as churches can partner with newcomers in our communities to help shape our continuing multicultural reality.

2. *The Many Faces of Mission*

Marilyn Stone

(Thursday A.M.)

Mission is about people! Discover many faces of mission as we learn about new initiatives and explore how we can practice good stewardship in addressing international, national and local needs.

3. *Personal Promise in Pastel*

Sue Kimball

(Thursday A.M., Friday A.M.)

Meditate on the wonder of God's promises for you as you create a personal work with the rainbow-colored possibilities of pastel chalks. No prior art experience necessary.

4. *Promises and Prayer – Faces of Children*

Chris Laufer

(Thursday A.M., Friday A.M.)

In this workshop you'll learn more about God's heart for children. You will have the opportunity to learn how prayer can also be used to share God's abundant love and wonderful promises with the suffering children of the world.

5. *Rahab's Rope, A Love in Action*

Pat Hammond

(Thursday A.M., Friday A.M.)

This workshop will take us from the first steps of "hearing God's call" through the actual development of Rahab's Rope, a Women's Center in Bangalore, India. We will talk about "listening" for God's call, discerning what this means and how to respond, all while hearing amazing stories of God's transforming love in action at Rahab's Rope.

6. *Cultivating A Listening Heart*

Marjorie Thompson

(Thursday A.M., Friday P.M.)

Author of *Soul Feast*, Marjorie Thompson will provide guidance and help to those who wish to explore the riches of Christian Spirituality. She offers a framework of understanding spiritual disciplines through prayer, spiritual reading, worship, fasting, self examination and hospitality.

Workshops (continued)

7. *Three Cups of Tea, A Mother's Perspective*

Jerene Mortenson

(Thursday A.M., Friday A.M.)

Central Asia Institute, founded by Greg Mortenson, has built schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Hear how these schools for girls as well as boys have changed lives and enriched communities.

8. *Mining the Riches of Revelation*

Louise Lawson Johnson

(Thursday P.M., Friday A.M.)

Revelation is one of the most challenging books to understand in the entire Bible, but it is also one of the most rewarding. This workshop will help you see the many blessings in *Revelation* and give you confidence that you can use it, teach it, and recommend it to others.

9. *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: Paying it Forward in a Give Me World*

Kaylene Hoskins

(Thursday P.M., Friday A.M.)

Disasters happen only in underprivileged, remote parts of the world, not in my backyard ... Wrong! Our synod had major disasters in the form of floods and tornadoes in 2008 and 2009. The work is still ongoing as families struggle to find a new normal. Learn how you can plan for a disaster. See how Disaster Assistance dollars and many volunteer hours have helped locally and globally, such as the current needs in Haiti. Ordinary people are the hands and feet of Jesus.

10. *Mission Impossible ... but not for Presbyterian Women*

Alice Wyatt (CCT)

(Thursday P.M., Friday P.M.)

Where there is a need, Presbyterian Women are there. Where there are tears, Presbyterian Women are there. Where there is heart, Presbyterian Women are there. Learn how Presbyterian Women can become involved and enthused about mission in the USA and throughout the world.

11. *Singing the Lord's Song in a Foreign Land: Sudanese Refugees*

David Madsen and Roberta Victor

(Thursday P.M., Friday P.M.)

You will learn why there are refugees from Sudan and about their journey to our country, about a national center for Sudanese activities at Cottage Grove Ave. Presbyterian Church in Des Moines, IA. and how art therapy has been used to help heal these refugees from their traumatic past.

12. *Sisters Energizing Together*

Jan Beran

(Thursday P.M., Friday P.M.)

Low impact, interactive movement that focuses on whole body wellness with a spiritual dimension leads us all to feel energetic and revitalized.

Workshops (continued)

13. The Emptiness of Our Hands: A Lent Lived on the Streets

Phyllis Cole-Dai

(Thursday P.M., Friday P.M.)

Phyllis and her colleague, James Murray, lived voluntarily for 47 days on the streets of Columbus, Ohio. Participants will learn about the spiritual practice of “being present” while being inspired to rethink many of their assumptions about homeless people and reassess their own potential for compassionate response.

14. The Mustard Seed Project

Linda Masey

(Thursday P.M., Friday P.M.)

As a Volunteer in Mission and registered nurse, Linda went to work with the Maasai Tribe in Kenya in 1997. She has returned each year for three months bringing supplies, medical help, and funds for education and teaching the love of God to the people. Hear more about this amazing project!

15. Native American Storytelling

Danelle McKinney and Rogene Stephens

(Friday P.M.)

This workshop is designed to share Native American storytelling using methods such as song and dance, as well as enhance our understanding of the Word.

Offering Recipients

Denise England

Denise is a registered nurse from Des Moines Presbytery, in her second year of a three-year commitment serving as Consultant for Geriatric and Nursing Services at Cairo Evangelical Medical Center in Cairo, Egypt. Her main focus is assisting in initiating an ongoing educational program for the nursing department that is beneficial to them as well as their patients.

Mattresses

Many of us take for granted basic comforts such as a mattress on which to rest while in the hospital. Many hospitals in the Congo have old, unsanitary wedges of foam or no mattresses at all. A portion of your offering will help PW supply every bed in our partner hospitals in the Congo with a mattress, which cost approximately \$60 each.

Cottage Grove Ave. Presbyterian Church PW Sudanese Kitchen Project

This church is located in Des Moines and has become a place of worship, gathering, assistance and social life for a community of Sudanese refugees and immigrants. Presbyterian Women of the Des Moines Presbytery are committed to helping address the serious concerns with the kitchen. A commercial refrigerator has been purchased and installed. Some funds were donated and with other loans they were able to obtain \$80,000 that was needed for a new furnace. Replacing the flooring and commercial stove/oven etc. will occur as funds and labor are received.

Fleece Baby Blankets – The Mustard Seed Project

We will be making fleece baby blankets for Linda Masey. She will bring them to Kenya on her next mission trip. We are asking you to bring 1 ¼ yard of fleece, in children's patterns or plain colors, to the gathering and we will cut and tie these blankets.

Registration form

(one person per form; print or photocopy additional forms as needed)

- Commuter Dorm Resident Single Room
 Suite Resident Double Room

Special Needs: _____

Name _____

Name to appear on nametag _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

- Check age range: 18-25 26-40
 41-55 56-70 Over 70

Congregation: _____

If under 18, name of parent or adult: _____

Name of preferred roommate(s): _____

- Have you attended a Synod Gathering before? Yes No
 If not, would you like a "buddy" to introduce you to the Gathering? Yes No

To register for workshops, mark 1 as your 1st choice and 2 as your 2nd choice in each time period.

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|------------------|----------------|
| Thursday morning | Friday morning |
| #1 _____ | #1 _____ |
| #2 _____ | #3 _____ |
| #3 _____ | #4 _____ |
| #4 _____ | #5 _____ |
| #5 _____ | #7 _____ |
| #6 _____ | #8 _____ |
| #7 _____ | #9 _____ |

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Thursday afternoon | Friday afternoon |
| #8 _____ | #6 _____ |
| #9 _____ | #10 _____ |
| #10 _____ | #11 _____ |
| #11 _____ | #12 _____ |
| #12 _____ | #13 _____ |
| #13 _____ | #14 _____ |
| #14 _____ | #15 _____ |

- Afternoon focus/discussion groups (after workshops are over)
- Thursday:
- _____ Immigration: What Difference Can We Make? – Julia Thorne
- _____ Palestinian Women as Artisans & Breadwinners – Elizabeth Knott
- _____ Rainbow of Mission Projects – Marilyn Stone

- Friday:
- _____ Finding Gold for Mission – Sharon Falck
- _____ Organizing An Alternative Gift Market – Ann Rock
- _____ Put New Life in PW Leadership – LaDonna Fay



Make checks payable to:
 PW in the Synod of Lakes and
 Prairies

Mail checks to:
 Synod Gathering
 c/o Sue Nedderman
 314 N. Cedar Ave.
 Hastings, NE 68901-5348

E-mail form to:
 s.medsker.nedderman@gmail.com
 with "PW Synod Gathering" as the
 subject