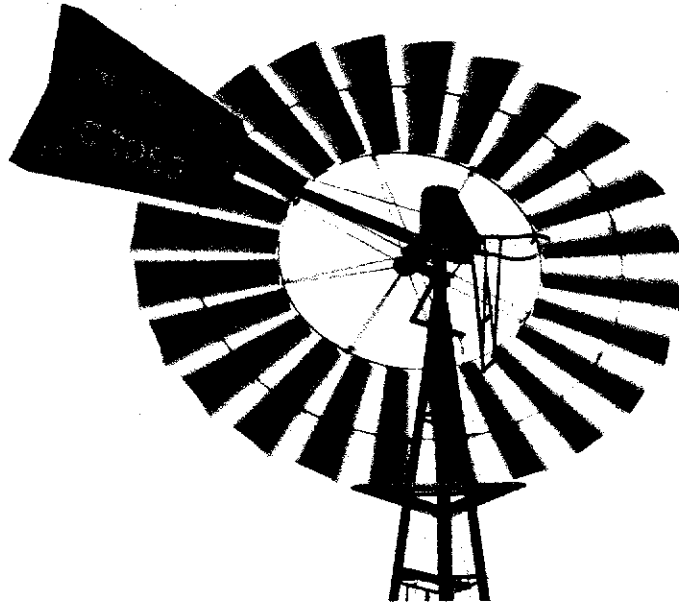


THE WINDMILL

SEPTEMBER, 2019

THE WINDMILL IS THE NEWSLETTER FOR
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF CENTRAL NEBRASKA PRESBYTERY



Donna Messerer, Editor

SAVE THE DATE

FALL GATHERING

October 26, 2019
First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, NE
Registration 8:30 a.m.

More information enclosed

The Presbyterian Women's Purpose

**Forgiven and freed
by God in Jesus Christ,
and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we commit ourselves
to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study
to support the mission of the church worldwide,
to work for justice and peace
and to build an inclusive, caring community of women
that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and
witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.**

Moderator's Musings

“God so loved the world....” “Beloved by God”

What amazing grace, that God should love us before we can even begin to contemplate our love for God, let alone respond to God's love. We are beloved of God. God considers us worthy of God's own love in creating us.

I remember an illustration I read some time ago. A woman was in the grocery store and observed a mother with her young son in the grocery cart selecting groceries. Suddenly the young son, picked up a jar of pasta sauce, and dropped it on the floor with a loud bang and splash. The observer turned to see what was the commotion, and saw the mother reach for the son's face, and give him a smile and gentle understanding then and there. The mother loved her son in spite of the mess.

God loves us in that same way. We are the beloved of God even when we mess up over and over; while we try our best, God smiles and accepts our attempts. God forgives and reaches out in love to receive us and strengthen us for our next attempt. We accept God's love and allow it to envelope our soul.

The Horizons study this year, Love Carved in Stone, on the 10 Commandments has challenged me to look for love in each of the 10 commandments. How are each of the commandments a message of love to me? How then does this love find its expression to others? May this be your challenge also.

Annabelle Wells, moderator
Central Nebraska Presbyterian Women
September, 2019

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

**PW Fall Gathering
October 26, 2019
First Presbyterian Church
Hastings, NE**

Presbyterian Women's Fall Gathering, 2019 will be held in connection with Presbytery at First Presbyterian Church, Hastings, Nebraska. The address is 621 North Lincoln, Hastings. The date is October 26, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. We will meet together for opening worship and communion. We will hear Rev. Mark Adams, a PCUSA Mission co-worker, talk about the work in Mexico. We heard some about this work last fall at Holdrege when two members from First Presbyterian Church, Hastings came to talk about their experience.

After worship and communion, the Presbyterian Women will adjourn to another room, to continue to hear Miriam, also a co-worker and wife of Rev. Mark Adams, and Carmilla, from Café' Justo, talk about their ministry and challenges as they walk with Jesus.

Registration will open the last week in September.

To Register for the Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering, 2019:

Log onto Presbytery of Central NE website: (www.centralnepresby.org)

- Click on Upcoming Meeting (top of the page)
- Select Meeting Registration
- Complete the Required Information
- Check the "PW Box"
- Submit

Also, listed for your information on the website will be:

Lodging options in Hastings
Dining options in Hastings

If you have trouble with these instructions, please call the Presbytery Office, 308 236-6996, and Judy will be glad to assist you.

Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women

April 25, 2019

1:00 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Atkinson, Ne

At 1:00 p.m. Moderator Annabelle Wells called the meeting to order. Four women from the Atkinson Church were in attendance, along with Pastor Wayne Owens and Eldin Wells. Annabelle welcomed the group, started the Christ Candle, opened with prayer and Jean Mellor brought greetings to the group.

Pastor Wayne Owens presented a program from his Hospice Chaplaincy perspective on the Fully Budgeted Life. He divided life into the physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual parts and mentioned some aspects of life related to that aspect of living. He also included worship and served communion. Pastor Owens gave each person a copy of the hospice booklet, The Eleventh Hour: a Caring Guide for the hours to Minutes Before Death.

Roll Call indicated 7 people in attendance; Evelyn Fox won the Horizon subscription. Annabelle shared about the Synod Gathering, June 20-23, and the scholarships available from the PWP of \$50 for repeat attenders and \$100 for new attendees. Annabelle also mentioned the Coordinating Team, need for new officers, and gave some highlights related to them. The hunger challenge was \$1.00 for each outside door in their house. Annabelle closed with prayer.

It was an enjoyable and enlightening day. The trip north was also enjoyable.

Annabelle Wells, sec. pro. tem.

Spring Gathering Presbyterian Women
Saturday, April 27, 2019
Holdrege First Presbyterian Church

Women gathered for the Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women of Central Nebraska Presbytery on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Registration started at 9:00 and the program began at 9:30 with Moderator Annabelle Wells calling the meeting to order. She gave a welcome to all in attendance: Barbara Beck, Moderator of the Holdrege PW welcomed the women. The meeting was opened with prayer and lighting the Christ Candle.

The Rev. Kirwin Stewart led worship with communion. His message was about "Life 101". The offering was designated for Flood Relief with total of \$148.79.

Denny Storer and Sharon Brooks, retired staff from Hastings College, shared their extensive mission experiences in Mexico, sponsored through the First Presbyterian Church in Hastings. They noted that a long history of Spanish mission influence began in 1520-1848-Frontera de Christo. The Presbyterian presence began in southern Mexico in 1872. Current mission ministries focus on the infrastructure challenges of border traffic & culture near the Mexico/U.S.A. border. Violence in Honduras and Guatemala fuel the flow of refugees.

The roll call of churches showed 6 churches in attendance. Rev. Polly Deppen-Williams, Executive Presbyter, attended. Total number of persons attending the gathering (including guest speakers) was 34 persons. Annabelle Wells and Ruth Smith shared a skit on the upcoming Synod of Lakes & Prairies PW gathering for June 20 – 23, Ames, Iowa. Registration is \$200 which includes meals and workshops. Room rate and other specifics provided in flier. Scholarships available.

The drawing for the Horizons Magazine was won by Bev Rehm. The Coordinating Team was introduced and reports were given. Needs for the Search Committee were presented. Nancy Grams volunteered to fill a vacancy for the office of "Together in Service". There are vacancies for offices of the Reading Advocate, Hunger/Peace/Resources and Historian.

The hunger challenge was given and \$45.11 was collected for the Presbyterian Hunger Fund. A closing prayer was given including grace for the meal.

A delicious salad lunch with dessert was enjoyed by the group, provided by the Holdrege Presbyterian Women.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Smith

2019 Synod Gathering for PW

Just to let all of you Windmill readers know about the 2019 Synod Gathering for Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies that met in Ames, IA on June 20-23. As you know, the theme was “Out of the believer’s heart shall flow streams of living water.” – John 7:38 – Here is a brief report of what happened;

Attendance: 138 registrations, 5 cancellations, total of 133 attending.

Bejeweled: Women were asked to bring a piece of costume jewelry that was to be sold for \$5. Some brought more than one piece. That 8-foot table was heaped with jewelry. Left over jewelry will go to Presbytery gatherings to be sold. The scarves were heaped on their own table. The left over scarves will go to the August Mission meeting in Dakota Presbytery for the women to purchase.

The total for the sale of jewelry and scarves came up to \$950. The money from all of these sales will benefit the Dakota Fund.

Gift Cards: Women were asked to bring a \$10 gift card from Target or Hy-Vee.

The total came up to \$3,030. These cards were given to Wings of Refuge or Butterfly Freedom House.

Cents Ability: A small cup was placed on each dining table for contributions of a few cents to help battle hunger and poverty. These few cents totaled up to \$181. This will benefit local hunger ministries as well as the national and international project of the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

Days for Girls: Hands-on Project; This organization gave direction to provide personal hygiene kits (menstrual) to girls world-wide. Each kit was placed in a draw-string bag and includes reusable cloth menstrual pads made up of colorful shields and liners; panties; a washcloth and soap; zip-closure plastic bags and other items. The kit enables girls to carry their clean and used pads discreetly and to take care of their own hygiene needs. During the distributions, women and girls also receive health education to break stigmas and cultural taboos associated with menstruation. Members from the local Days for Girls group directed us on how to make the shields and liners and how to pack the bags. This project was located on the South Meadow Room.

The Workshops that were available were; 1) Wells in Africa given by Suzanne Gorhau, 2) Love Carved in Stone by Kathleen Keefer, 3) Leadership by Kris Peterson, 4) With Scars On My Soul by Mary Newburn-Williams, 5) Chair Yoga by Meghan Davis, 6) My Story As A Refugee by Ekram Kachu, 7) Toxic Charity by Marcia & Mark McAdoo, 8a) Immigration and the Refugee Crisis by Marilyn Stone, 8b) PDA: How Can I Assist in Disaster Response? By Marilyn Stone, 9) Global Mission Exchange to Indonesia by Sue Ingels, 10) Book Review: Waking Up White by Nancy Siewert, 11) In Her Shoes by Sue Kimball, 12) The Circle of Life by Fern Cloud, 13) What’s the Secret to Taking Great Pictures With Your Phone? By Kim Coulter, 14) Native American Stories by Sharon Flack and 15) Flint: The Poisoning of an American City; a film.

Those attended from Central Nebraska were Sue Medsker-Nedderman from Hastings, Annabelle Wells from Kearney, and Darline Watson from Holdrege (Atlanta). The next time you see Sue, congratulate her on her new position of Moderator of Presbytery Women in the Synod of Lakes & Prairies.

Submitted by Annabelle Wells & Darline Watson