

Coordinating Team Minutes
Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Covenant
Friday and Saturday, October 9 & 10, 2009
Synod Office in Maumee, Ohio

- Present** Sally Abbotts, Marie Andrews, Ruth Azar, Nadine Baxter, Goldie Burrier, Joanne Clever, Martha Cox, Nancy Duffield, Sarah Gresh, Laura Hoveland, Motoko Huthwaite, Donna Johnston, Sarah Juntune, Mary Kindell, Harriet Leadbetter, Claudia Meyke, Florence Morrison, Judy Oeder, Carol Pierce, Martha Pool, Lois Poston, Carol Reed, Alyce Ann Schmidt, Ann Wood
- Opening** The Gathering started with lunch at 12:00. Meeting opened with a prayer and lighting of Christ Candle by moderator, Florence Morrison. Sarah Juntune then gave a reading from Mission Yearbook on the subject “Respecting Spirituality of other cultures.”
We played a get acquainted game.
- Minutes** Minutes were read, corrected and approved. Correction: Laura Hoviland not Haviland.
- Treasurer** Treasurer’s report by Sarah Gresh, discussed vouchers for meals while attending any PW meeting or business. **Motion made to allow \$6.00 for breakfast, \$8, for lunch, and \$10.00 for dinner.** Motion was approved. This should be added to the standing rules. Treasurer requested change.
- Moderator’s report** Moderator discussed certificates won by Synod of the Covenant. Top 5 Synods in the Presbytery total giving 2007-2008. Top 5 in Mission Pledge 2007-2008.
Request made to send scholarship money to repay moneys used by two international women during Churchwide Gathering. Request to be made to John Knox Church. Moderator will look into matter.
- Web-site** Discussion on importance of web-site. Should we continue it? This will be discussed in business meeting.
- Vice Mod. For S & S Development** Moderator shared an email from her family in Alaska. Vice Moderator for Studies and Spiritual Development shared an experience in Antarctica concerning killing of seals and how every part is used and the animals are treated and killed humanely and spiritually.
- Vice Mod. For Justice & Peace** Vice Moderator for Justice and Peace, Ruth Azar, reported on communications received. October is Domestic Violence Awareness month – wants to help others in violent relationships. Ruth shared personal experience concerning son’s experience with abusive father. Suggested “the Clothesline Project” as something that should be shared by our women in their churches.
- Vice Mod. For Mission Synod Mod.** Vice Moderator for Mission Interpretation, Carol Winkler, was ill and unable to attend. David Barkley, Moderator of Synod, addressed the group and stated that PW had a very positive effect on young people.
- Synod Rep. to CCT** Synod Representative to the CCT, Martha Pool, discussed items of interest concerning the Leadership Enhancement Committee, Liaison to Communication Committee, and the Global Exchange Committee...

Martha stated that the CCT is now incorporated and the officers are now the board, One more position has been added to the CCT, an immigrant woman.

The Yearbook for Prayer and Study will have a 16 page spread about PW in the 2010 yearbook.

Mission pledges of 4.4 million dollars in 1989, decreased to 1.9 million in 2008. Synod income is based on mission pledge. We must find ways to increase mission pledges. "Blessings without Boundaries" tells how mission pledges are used and tells specific stories.

"PW Legacy" women can secure monies by asking that they be set aside for PW use. Example the Martha Martin Fund. We need to promote the Birthday and Thank Offerings by making churches aware of them.

Horizons magazine will increase subscription price in January of 2010 due to increased expenses.

Quarterly mailings can be found through pcusa.org.

The United Nations "Status of Women Conference" will be held in February 2010 in New York, to learn the plight of other women. For more information contact Louise Davidson.

**CCT
Exchange
trips & other
international
info.**

September 8-17, 2010 is the Mission USA exchange trip to the Dakotas. Purpose to see the needs and problems of Native Americans.

The Global Exchange for 2011 is to India and Thailand.

The Palm Project name has been changed to Congo Project. For more information contact Mary Jorgensen.

There is a study tour planned for the Czech Republic.

Growing PW

Leadership Enhancement Project – Immigrant and Racial Ethnic women and how to integrate them into our organization and teach them leadership

Young Women – Intergenerational Dialogue – PW needs to find a way for younger women to be involved with PW.

Newly retired women – a task group will be put together to find ways to include them in PW. For contact information send to Patricia.Longfellow@pcusa.org.

Historian

Historian, Sally Abbott reported that she would like to have any pictures that were taken at the Churchwide Gathering. Also Sally has acquired several things and would like to know what she should do with them.

Leadership

Carol Pierce, Leadership Coordinator, announced that she is back and to please call on her.

Secretary

Carol Reed, Secretary, was asked to send a Thank You card to Janet C. Fehlen, executive assistant, Synod of the Covenant.

CWU	Ann Wood, CWU, OH gave a report on celebrations, important dates and other church activities in Ohio and wants all women to support their local Church Women United. Lois Poston, Church Women United in Michigan, reported on CWU activities, celebrations, State Assembly in Michigan.
Search	Joanne Clever, Search chairperson wants names for possible nominations of offices soon to be vacated.
Report: group discussions	Laura Hovland, Cincinnati moderator, reported on group discussions. 1. More than one person should be able to sign checks. 2. People sent to Churchwide Gathering should report at presbytery level.
Synod Gathering	June 25-27, 2010 – “The Many Faces of Mission” – Dearborn, MI. Gathering Planning Team with co-moderators, Nancy Duffield and Kari Gorman. Plans were reported. Team looking for ways to keep costs down such as using church instead of a college campus. There will be a labyrinth, and possibly 13 stations of the cross. There will be speakers and workshops. Some will help tie quilts together. Two tours are proposed one to the Second Mile Center and mosque and the other to Riverside Center and mosque. The mission program will be putting kits together. Each church would bring multiples of the same thing. The Synod Mobile Health Van will be there. There will be Bible study.
Supper	Grace by the moderator, then the meal.
Synod Mission Statement	Business meeting resumes. The Synod PW mission statement adopted in the Fall of 2003 was discussed. Are we still happy with it? “Our mission is to empower leadership of PW in the Presbyteries through spiritual development, education and communication, so PWP’s can fulfill their purpose.” Motion made and moved to add “to empower” and support the leadership and to accept the mission statement as amended with capital “P”.
Other business	Recommend Synod CT eliminate the position of Multicultural Ministries since the Synod PW moderator serves on that committee. Recommend that we talk with Adrienne Adams to approve a person to hold the position on CECA for PW.
Installation of officers	Installation of officers, Carol Pierce and Marie Andrews to offices of Leadership Coordinator and Registrar by moderator.
Evening closing	We ended the meeting with evening prayer and singing, ”All Praise to Thee, My God This Night,” then extinguishing the Christ Candle. Meeting ended at 8:10.
Opening Saturday	9:00 am at the Synod Office. Meeting opened with moderator leading us in a prayer, a song and responsive reading. She lit the Christ Candle. Sara Juntune read from the Presbyterian Yearbook and then a prayer.
Finance Report	Sarah Gresh discussed changes due to change in officers and different location of officers. The Moderator and Vice Moderator For Studies and Spiritual Development are to be able to sign checks.

Motions: For the current budget the fiscal year is August 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2010.

(short year). The By-laws Committee is instructed to change the fiscal year in the by-laws to August 1 thru July 31.

The Financial report was accepted.

Plans of action Reminder to presbyteries to call on Vice Moderators and Synod Rep. for help. Presbyteries need to hear from Vice Moderators and Synod Rep.

Newsletter What should be sent to the Communications person? – Church activities, important dates, personal experiences. Synod newsletters are sent to each CT member 4 times a year. Information should be received by the communicator by November 1, February 1, May 1, August 1 so concerns can be shared in a timely manner. **Motion made that communicator will receive information from CT electronically by November 1, February 1, May 1, August 1 for newsletter sent electronically by the 15th of that month to website.**

Joys and concerns Motoko stated that The Second Mile Center received an award for keeping Detroit beautiful. Zeta from Hungary was at Detroit Presbytery. Detroit had a fund raiser – Chili Winter Days, \$5.00.

Alyce Ann Schmidt recommended the book *Why Not Me, O God, Why Me* by cancer survivor Sue Teall. Alyce Ann bought the wonderful book at the Gathering and met the author and here husband.

Ideas for 2011 Suggested places fir 2011 Synod Gathering: Wilmont, Amish Country on Ohio. First Presbyterian Church in Maumee. Date not set.

Speaker on mission – Gathering is seeking names. Suggestions should be sent to Sarah Juntune and committee.

Fall 2010 – SOCPW CT **Date for the SOCPW/CT meeting in the Fall of 2010 is October 8-9, 2010.**

Moderator will look into CT possibly meeting for an hour after Sunday Coffee on June 27 at Dearborn Church.

Martha Pool will post pictures of Dearborn Church on the internet at Snapfish.com.

Incorporation Martha talked a little bit on incorporation of PCUSA, national level. It was stated that Methodist and Lutheran women have been incorporated for several years.

Closing Sarah Juntune read an interesting story about Noah's Ark as part of our send-off. Moderator closed meeting with prayer and extinguishing of Christ Candle.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Reed, secretary