Synod of the Covenant Presbyterian Women

WALKING in the Light

2017 Gathering

Presbyterian Women 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.

June 23-24, 2017
First Presbyterian Church, 111 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, Michigan 49017
**PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE GATHERING**  
**June 23, 2017 Friday**

8:00 am – 5:00 pm  Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Training

4:00-6:00 pm  Registration

6:00 pm  Welcome, Grace, Dinner

6:45 pm  Energizer  

7:00 pm  Opening Devotion, Lighting the Christ Candle

Business Meeting

7:45 pm  Plenary Address - “Cloud of Witnesses – The Community of Christ in Hebrews”  Melissa Bane Sevier

8:15 pm  Evening Prayer

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**June 24, 2017 Saturday**

8:30 am  Music

Business Meeting

9:30 am  Address – “Mission Exchange”  

10:30 am  Break/Energizer/Music  

11:00 am  Plenary Address – “Confess God’s Word Out Loud, and Talk Back to Satan”  Wanda Beauman

Noon  Lunch (choir members eat first)

1:15 pm  Workshops: Session 1

2:30 pm  Break

2:45 pm  Workshops: Session 2

4:00 pm  Worship with Communion  

Rev. Patricia Weatherwax & Rev. Melissa Lopez

5:00 pm  Dinner

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**Accommodations:**

Women are to arrange for housing for themselves. The Gathering Team has arranged special rates (not including tax) with the motels listed below. By indicating you are with the Presbyterian Women (PWSOC), you will receive the special rate. **Only 1 person per room should make the reservation.**

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<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Parking</th>
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<td>15 double &amp; 1 king with wheelchair shower</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality Inn ($107/tax)</td>
<td>2590 Capital Ave SW</td>
<td>269-965-3201</td>
<td>($107/tax)</td>
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<td>Fairfield Inn by Marriott ($139/tax)</td>
<td>4665 Beckley Rd</td>
<td>269-979-8000</td>
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<td>10 double &amp; 5 quad (king)</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCamly Plaza Hotel ($109/tax)</td>
<td>50 Capital Ave SW</td>
<td>269-696-4728</td>
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WORKSHOPS

Session 1

1. "Cloud of Witnesses -- The Community of Christ in Hebrews" - Bible Study Helps  Melissa Sevier
   Come for an introduction, by the author, to the 2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study and some Bible study helps.

2. A Justice-Filled Life Makes Wrong Things Right  Wanda Beauman
   We will use an interactive process to examine everyday scenarios and decide how to take the next step.

3. First-Hand Aid, Rural Clinic Development Initiative  Marc Bohland
   The Rural Clinic Development Initiative, one of our 2017 Birthday Offering recipients, is designed to establish six medical clinics in partnership with, and located at, Presbyterian Churches in rural Cuba that will provide medicine and care not available, or difficult to get, from Cuban sources in those communities. Marc Bohland is Executive Director of First-Hand Aid, providing humanitarian Relief to Cubans in need, hand-to-hand.

4. Restore, Refresh, Rejoice  Pat Scheid
   A fun-filled, lively discussion on ways to lessen stress and increase your potential for love, joy, gratitude, peace, and hope. Find out how to turn your heart and life toward what you were created to be – a rich and satisfied, Spirit-filled self.

Session 2

5. What's New in Presbyterian Women?  Laura Hoyland
   This class will highlight new ideas and resources that are available for your PW programing plans. It will be interactive with input and opportunities for group sharing from the participants. You will be pleasantly surprised by the flexibility and wide range of resources available for mission support, spiritual growth, community action, and women's fellowship.

6. A Justice-Filled Life Makes Wrong Things Right  Wanda Beauman
   We will use an interactive process to examine everyday scenarios and decide how to take the next step.

7. "Cloud of Witnesses -- The Community of Christ in Hebrews" – Bible Study Helps  Melissa Sevier
   Come for an introduction, by the author, to the 2017-2018 Horizons Bible Study and some Bible study helps.

8. Walking out the Door, Into the Light  Renee Roederer
   Religious demographics are changing in the United States. Many 'Nones' and 'Dones' have walked out of the sanctuary doors and are not returning to traditional, institutional churches. Come learn how Michigan Nones and Dones, a new community in Southeast Michigan, is connecting spiritually with people who are disenfranchised from Church.

A Spirituality Center will be available throughout the gathering.
THE PW CHALLENGES:
- Submit an application and references and partake in an 8-hour disaster preparedness training.
- Commit to organize and provide a minimum of three disaster preparedness trainings a year.
- Learn what resources and partnerships are available to be prepared for a disaster.
- Educate friends and neighbors, men and women, on the need to be prepared.
- Work to overcome reluctance to believe that a disaster could happen.

THE PDA COMMITMENT:
- Train two to six Presbyterian Women within each presbytery
- Provide the tools and resources for Presbyterian Women to train disaster preparedness
- Support the trainers by providing connections, contacts and promoting the program
- Financing the initial Presbyterian Women mid-council training and providing instructors
- Commission Presbyterian Women for this disaster preparedness ministry

You can make a difference...
Click on “Get involved”, “Volunteer” at www.pcusa.org/pda
Complete an application – email beth.snyder@pcusa.org

PDA is supported by One Great Hour of Sharing
PW is supported by pledges, www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/301