



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Innovator

Presbyterian Women in Grace Presbytery

Volume 156

Karen Groman, Editor

4th Quarter 2020

Highlights In This

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Greetings and Peace!

We are living in a unique and unprecedented time. Certainly, none of us has walked this road nor even seen it before.

This situation with the coronavirus is changing so rapidly, our ears are glued to news updates throughout the day. The New York/New Jersey area, where I live, is now the new epicenter of COVID-19 cases in the US, and the situation evolves almost hourly. Currently, we are under curfews, and restaurants are allowed to operate only on a delivery and take-out basis. In the next few days, we may be in the same “shelter in place” situation as San Francisco and many counties in northern California.

The effect of the coronavirus pandemic is hardly one-dimensional. It impacts multiple aspects of our daily lives. Any slight change in our body makes us suspicious of ourselves being infected by the virus. Then where do we go to get tested? Even if we are healthy, can we rearrange our daily lives so our homes function as our workplaces and schools for our children? Many cannot bring their work home—waitresses, hairdressers, bank tellers, postal workers. In the midst of drastic adjustments to life during a pandemic, many are at risk of losing income and/or their jobs. Closures, cancellations, quarantines and curfews bring not only economic consequences, but also anxiety and fear.

In the midst of this crisis and confusion, we can only cling to God for clear minds and hope. We hope in God, because God loved us first, and God is faithful to us.

Let us pray for calm and open hearts to others. COVID-19 is not going to stop us from loving God, our neighbors and ourselves. This coronavirus is not a Chinese virus or Kung Fu virus, and moreover, Asian people are not the virus. But in a time of fear, we are quick to find scapegoats or become nonsensical. An epidemic/crisis puts a mirror on society, revealing strengths and weaknesses. I think it also puts a mirror to our faith.

Our mission and commitment to work for justice, peace and inclusion don't stop because of coronavirus. We continue to name injustice when we see it and work to right it. We all need a little more courage in difficult times.

The image of an unnamed woman in the Gospel of Luke who had been bleeding for 12 years (8:43–48) comes to mind. If we can only touch the fringe of Jesus' clothes to stop the spread of the virus as it stopped the bleeding for her!

Let us remember each other in prayer and reach out to one another. We may be practicing social distancing and sometimes feel isolated. But we are not alone. You are not alone. “Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Jos. 1:9). *Emmanuel*, God is with us even in the midst of crisis.

May the mercy of God surround us all.

In faith and love,

JyungIn (Jenny) Lee

Moderator for Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc

<http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/2020/03/19/moderator-message-on-covid-19/>



Online newsletter: <http://www.gracepresbytery.org/ministries/presbyterian-women/>



A Note from Bettina...

Greetings to all of the Presbyterian Women across North and Central Texas! This will be my last article written for you as I step down, and Meg Garver/Hamilton becomes the next Moderator of PW in our Presbytery. She, and all of the other officers were elected at our Virtual Fall Gathering in October and November. If you have not been to the Presbyterian Women's page at the Grace Presbytery website, go to: www.gracepresbytery.org/ministry-mission/women/. The voting is over, but Meg's speech on racism, Rev. Dr. Lucia Kremzar's Meditation on PW, our budget, and the slate of officers are still there for you to peruse. Take a moment to donate to Presbyterian Children's Homes, which is our Fall Gathering Offering. You will see the link to the website on the page. I hope that all of us will be able to see each other in person at the next Fall Gathering. I pray for the friends and relatives that we have lost, and I want you all to be safe and careful for the next few months as we make our way towards a vaccine.

Blessings on Your Path...Bettina



My Dearest Sisters in Christ, it is very humbly I type this note to you all.

I am blessed to have you in my life, and the Presbyterian Church is blessed to have you in the trenches, working at mission, friendship and living the Word as only you are able.

I know we have not been able to gather in person, but I know the missional activities continue and we look forward to being able to

gather for Bible Study, friendship, mission opportunities etc. Also we look forward to welcoming new members to our groups, committees, etc.

I pray for all of you and your families, and hope, during 2021 that I will be invited to visit your groups and we can work together to strengthen the Mission of the P.C. (USA) in our part of the world and beyond. Don't forget the ChurchWide Gathering in St. Louis in the Summer, along with other activities on line, Zoom and YouTube. I know it is so much better in person, BUT, we will do that and soon, God Willing and the virus gets stopped.

In His Service, Meg GarverHamilton

PWs in the News...

FPC, Grapevine is making knitted prayer squares for Parkland Hospital for their programs there. The response was greatly appreciated.

FPC, Winnsboro sold frozen Chicken Spaghetti dinners to raise money for their mission projects.

What has your group done?



Meet Us in St. Louis in 2021!

PW in the PC(USA) has set the date for 2021 Church-wide Gathering—August 5-8, 2021. Mark your calendars, start saving and stay tuned to all PW communications channels. Visit PW's Church-wide Gathering page periodically to stay updated:

to stay updated:

www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering

We can simultaneously “rejoice in hope” (Rom. 12:12–13) and be ready to swerve! As of this day, the 2021 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will take place as planned: August 5–8, 2021, in St. Louis, Missouri. But stay tuned to this email series and check in occasionally at www.presbyterianwomen.org to see how this journey to the Gathering unfolds. Updates and conversations will be available as “we see in a mirror, dimly” (1 Cor. 13:12) to greater clarity. We will certainly gather. We will certainly rejoice. But we may be asked to pivot to a new date or a new way of being in community.

A Message from the Cluster Group Coordinator

PWs like to be on top of what is happening in PW or in the greater World. Help us get the work out about happenings of PW in Grace Presbytery, we need Cluster Leaders in all areas of Grace Presbytery, especially South 1 and 2. Contact Meg Garver-Hamilton at 214-632-7003 or mgarverhamilton@gmail.com with your personal info and get on our mailing list: email or snail mail! Share the great news of what your group is doing. YOU can make a difference! We also need a Cluster Leader Coordinator on GPPWCT.

Grace Presbytery Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team:

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Moderator: | Meg Garver-Hamilton 214.632.7003 |
| Vice Moderator: | Volunteer needed! |
| Interpretation Mission: | Bettina Zvanut, 903.886.8053 |
| Vice Moderator of Programs: | Cheryl Arey, 214.663.2621 |
| Coordinator Bible Study: | Rev. Dr. Julie Atkins, 214.662.1455 |
| Secretary: | Jill Bray, 817.946.4810 |
| Treasurer: | Joanne McClendon, 817.292.5181 |
| Coordinator of Resources: | Kathy Moriarty, 817.478.7870 |
| Communications Coordinator: | Patty Heeter 214.789.7734 |
| Historian: | Eva C. Riggs 817.294.4978 |
| Innovator Editor: | Karen Groman, 254.666.5030 |
| Vice Moderator Cluster Leaders: | Volunteer needed! |
| Search | The Rev. Dr. Lucia Kremzar, 817.915.3558 |

PWs in the News...

ZOOM...

Wish I had stock in this company! Lots of people are Zooming these days...church, meetings, visiting during Covid. Is your PW group zooming its meetings? Let us know how you are doing things. My PW started Zooming las spring to finish the *Ten Words* Bible study and now we are doing the lamentations study, *Into the Light*.

Lamentations seems so appropriate for 2020!

I cannot share your joys and concerns if you do not communicate with the Innovator. Please add me to your newsletter mailings or emails. One of the big problems this year is the disconnect that is happening with the pandemic. Keep in touch, please!

Kare Groman, Editor, Innovator

kgroman@mygrande.net

2009 Ruidoso Dr. Waco, TX 76712

Don't forget:

WANTED!! GRACE PRESBYTERY PW HISTORIES

So what was your PW doing in 2018-2019? (Don't forget to turn in your PW history!) Who were your leaders? Did you have circles, special events, field trips, mission projects? We'd love to have your PW history for the record by mid-February.

Please use 8x11 inch, acid-free paper, if possible. Keep it short and simple. Include your church name and address, pastor's name, presbytery, synod, the year covered (school year or calendar year), the names of PW officers or contact person and address.

Include the number of women in the church, the number of circles and average attendance, life membership pins given (and to whom), PW reading or other awards and the highlights of the past year.

Add brief information about your church: the pastor, staff, session, members, highlights. Make three copies:

- For your files (you may want to include photos and more detailed information there)
- For the Grace Presbytery historian: Eva Riggs, 4329 Quail Hollow Road, Fort Worth, TX 76133 (817-294-4978)
- For the Archivist Special Collections, John Bulow Campbell Library, Columbia Theological Seminary, PO Box 520, Decatur, GA 30031



The **PW Innovator** is **online** at <http://www.gracepresbytery.org/ministries/presbyterian-women/>. It is in color and can be read online or printed out for later use.

To get your **PW Innovator** by email, notify the editor. The **PW Innovator** is published four times a year; first week in **March, June, September, and December**. **Deadlines for submission are February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1.** Submit to: **Karen Groman, 2009 Ruidoso Dr., Waco, TX 76712, kgroman@mygrande.net**

Notify the editor by mail or email to **remove your name** from the mailing list. The newsletter is available by mail, free of charge, to those without access to the Internet.

All Moderators and Circle Leaders need the PW Innovator. The Grace Presbytery Coordinating Team communicates timely information to your PW group through this newsletter.



Presbyterian Women
Of Grace Presbytery *Innovator*
c/o Karen Groman, Editor
2009 Ruidoso St.
Waco, TX 76712

Address correction requested

2020 25TH OF EVERY MONTH IS ORANGE DAY!!

December

1 World AIDS Day; Giving Tuesday
5 International Volunteer Day
10 International Human Rights Day
10–14 National Gun Violence Prevention Sabbath Weekend
18 International Migrants Day
25 Christmas; **Orange Day**

January

National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month
10–16 PW Together in Action Days to End Human Trafficking
11 National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
17 Race Relations Sunday
17 Criminal Justice Sunday
18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
18–24 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Remember, every Thursday is an opportunity to participate in Thursdays in Black. See www.oikoumene.org/en/get-involved.

See <http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/justice> for the complete calendar.



**PRESBYTERIAN
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Ways to Stay Connected

Patty Heeter, Communications Coordinator

To find information, stay connected, and up to date you can go to gracepresbytery.org, click on Ministries, then Presbyterian Women. Here you will find links to resources, forms to be submitted, past issues of the *PW Innovator* and upcoming events.

Our Grace Presbytery PW Facebook page that can be found by logging into your Facebook account and searching for "**Presbyterian Women of Grace Presbytery**". Feel free to invite all of your PW friends to join and post pictures and information about what your local group is doing. We will also use this page to post reminders about upcoming events.