



Innovator

Presbyterian Women in Grace Presbytery

Volume 163

Karen Groman, Editor

3rd Quarter 2022

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Fall Gathering!

Grace Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

October 22, 2022

At
 Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services
 Foster Home Village
 156 Private Road 443, Itasca, TX 76055

Keynote Speaker- Laura Fleming PCHAS Director of Development

9:30-10:15 Registration

10:15-11:30 Gathering/Business Meeting/Keynote Speaker

The offering today will be designated for the ministry of PCHAS.

11:45-12:45 Lunch

1:00 Worship Service/Communion



Presbyterian Women



- ❖ We welcome.
- ❖ We witness.
- ❖ We work (and play!).

Putting faith in action is what we do!

www.presbyterianwomen.org

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

Register Now

Grace Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering 2022 Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services Foster Home Village 156 Private Road 443 Itasca, TX 76055

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ home _____ cell _____

ADDRESS: _____

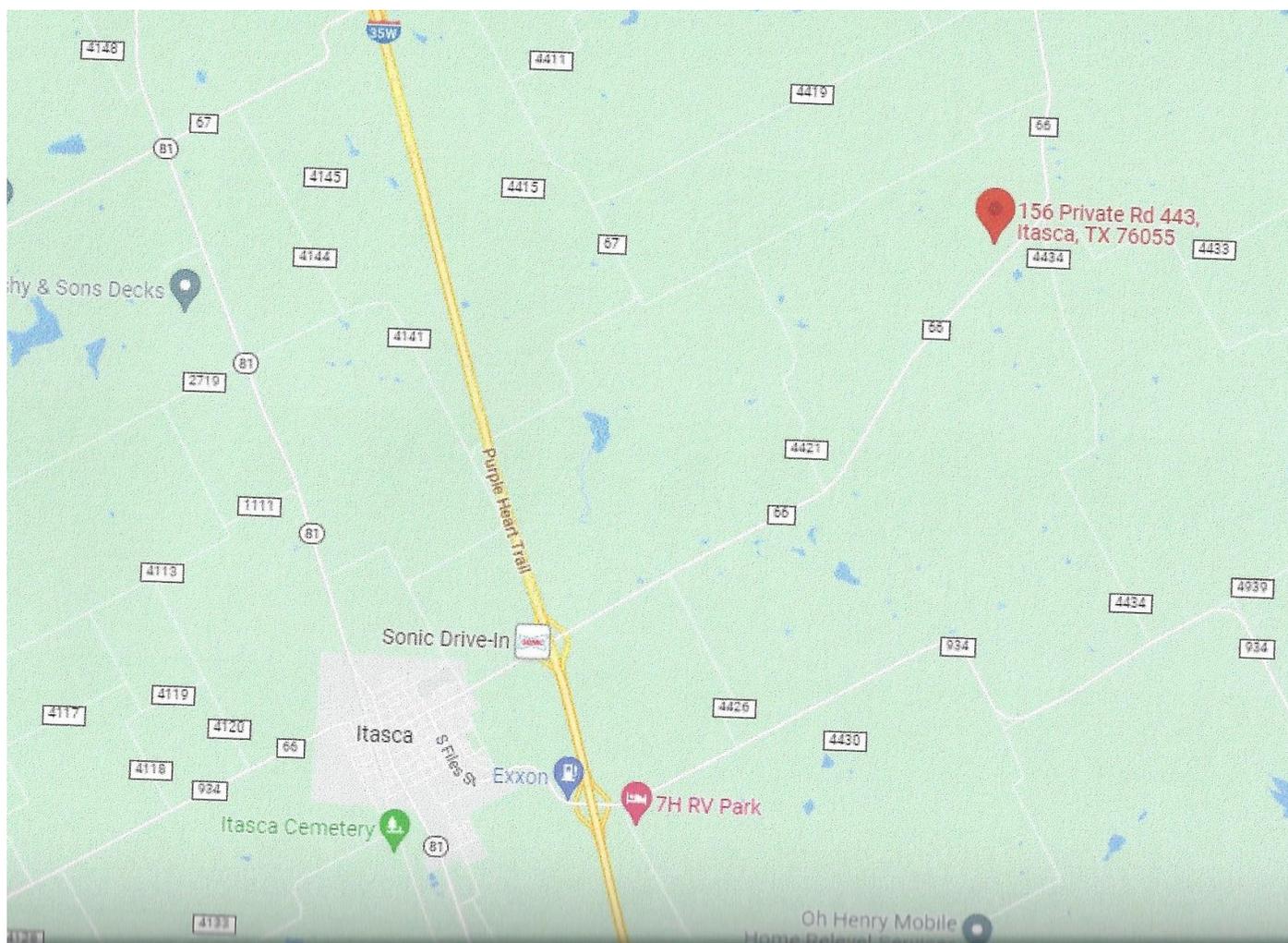
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

CHURCH NAME AND CITY: _____

DETACH AND MAIL with a check for \$8 for lunch to

Meg Garver Hamilton, 2022 Shady Oaks Circle, Terrell, TX 75160

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____





Meg's Musings

I know that as I type this to you it is hot and dry, but also know that Fall is coming, and it will cool down, leaves will turn color and fall, football season will be in full head mode, and we turn our thoughts to pumpkins and turkeys etc. Some have started their Christmas shopping and will try to remember where the gifts were put, you know---the safe place. But we do have a Great Bible Study to look forward to, along with Mission projects for both near and far. The need is great and has been for a very long time.

But, do we, the Coordinating Team have a great Fall event in the works for YOU, we will All, of our Sisters, meet at the Itasca Children's Home for our in-person Gathering. This is a very special time for us all, we will have a gift for each and everyone of you that attend, along with Great Fellowship, displays and information about P.W. events coming and just past. We will accept the 2023 Budget, elect and install officers for the 2023/2025 term, hear of all the wonderful things that Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services are performing. We will also enjoy the fellowship and smiles of our Sisters in Christ from around the Presbytery, share information about projects and be able to purchase handmade items from Rahab's Rope and S.H.E. from Pakistan. Also pick up information about Evergreen, etc. We will Worship and break bread together, and of course sing together. I do hope to see you all there.

I was privileged to attend the Synod Gathering in New Orleans a few weeks ago and was impressed with what is going on at the Synod and Churchwide levels. Our financial and prayers help a great deal. Much is still needed, and I am grateful that a good number of your groups have continued to honor your pledges to this important work. The Bible Study is another good one from Horizons magazine. This publication is an award winning publication, not only in the Presbyterian Church, but in secular circles. We can do great things when we work together with God's help.

May each and every one of you, my Sisters of Christ, have a Great Year, this side of the daisies.

In His Service, Meg GarverHamilton

PWs in the News...

SYNOD OF THE SUN CHURCHWIDE
COORDINATING TEAM (CCT)
REPRESENTATIVE REPORT
JULY 8, 2022

Serving on the CCT as Synod of the Sun Representative has been interesting and fulfilling. The two committees on which I serve —Justice and Peace and Bible Study—are busy! Justice and Peace meets monthly; Bible Study Committee meets quarterly. The women on the CCT are servants and teachers. My two particular areas of service within the Justice and Peace Committee are 1) Black Maternal and Infant Death Crisis and 2) thousanddays.org, which focuses on infant health and “the thousand days between pregnancy and a child’s 2 nd birthday, which set the foundation for all the days that follow.”

Other areas of interest to the Justice and Peace Committee, of which members take turns “shepherding” (championing) are Bread for the World and the Poor People’s Campaign; Children’s Literacy; Ecumenical Advocacy Days; United Nations Commission on the Status of Women; Thursdays in Black; the World Council of Churches; Gender Justice; Ending Violence against Women; Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirit People; Peacemaking; Human Trafficking; LGBTQIA+; Immigration and Asylum.

The Committee also maintains a resource list, a prayer calendar, a children’s resource guide, and offers a new Book Club launched last Fall. The best site for information is presbyterianwomen.org, as well as a PW publication called NEWSBYTES.

God’s blessings.
Sincerely,
Rev. Dr. Lucia Kremzar
Synod of the Sun, Grace Presbytery
Grapevine Texas



News from you...

Submit articles from your women’s group for the *Innovator* to Editor Karen Groman .
kgroman69@gmail.com Next deadline is **February 1**
We are going semi-annual for publication!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SYNOD OF THE SUN GATHERING
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, JULY 21-13, 2022

"If God spoke to you today telling you that He had a gift of rest and delight for you, would you accept it?"

This quote comes from the Reverend Dr. Carol M. Bechtel, keynote speaker for the gathering of Presbyterian Women in Synod of the Sun, which was held in New Orleans this July. It can be more than hypothetical-- PW took a new look at the possibilities of this type available to us.

The South Louisiana Director of the PW Synod Gathering, 2022, Mary Monsted, previewed the meeting as featuring four motivating pastors leading us in worship. She promised worship, interactive discussions, music, bus tours, a Shabbat at Touro Synagogue, crafts, mission work, relaxing meals together, and dining in New Orleans-- and it was all that and more! She predicted that we would be moved to spread our enrichment to churches when we returned home.

The offerings brought to the meeting were divided between the Okra Abbey, where Rev. Hannah Quick is pastor for the neighborhood garden, and their weekly Wednesday lunches, "Grace and Greens." Other donations were offered to Evergreen Life Services and Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) New Orleans.

Our keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Carol Bechtel, is author of this year's Horizon Bible Study for PW International. The title of the study is CELEBRATING SABBATH: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight. We learned that celebrating Sabbath can be a lot of fun! We took some two-minute Sabbaths during the conference, where meditation and relaxation were experienced with a background of harp music offered by Carol Bechtel. We found that to be the delight promised by God, and it is available to each of us, not just beginning on Friday evenings, but anytime we are willing to STOP (the definition of the word, Sabbath) and embrace the world as God intends it to one day be for all.

Our visit included Touro Synagogue, begun 1908 on St. Charles Avenue, a reform synagogue and the first Jewish temple started outside of the original colonies. Once a year, the Temple hosts its "Jazz Fest Shabat." The Rabbi Katie Bauman offered us the opportunity to visit and view the building, including her introduction to the Sabbath, featuring her beautiful guitar music and song, which began just as we were leaving the building to enjoy our own meal furnished in part by the Presbyterian Foundation. They offered each of us an envelope of cash to enjoy the best oysters, pecan-crust redfish, or any other NOLA dream meal we desired. Rabbi Bauman explained the Jewish meaning and observance of Sabbath, kept by Jewish people from Friday evening to Saturday evening, as a festive day when Jews exercise their freedom from the regular work of everyday life. It offers an opportunity to contemplate the spiritual aspects of life, and to spend time with family and friends. At the end of the Sabbath celebration, we are then ready to embrace our work again with renewed enthusiasm in an effort to remake the world into the beautiful place God intends with peace and justice for all. Many thanks to the Synod of the Sun, Presbyterian Foundations, Grace Presbytery and all of the many others involved in the Synod Gathering. Special thanks for St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church for their generous hospitality and arrangements.

Rev. Dr. Bechtel presented her Horizons Bible Study preview for all PW at First Presbyterian Church in Ft. Worth on August 16, 2022. She played her harp music and invited us to Celebrate Sabbath again just as God invites us to rest and relax, just as he does in Exodus 20:8-11:

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gate. 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

In a PW world that is usually about working for and pushing for equality, justice, protest and change, there is still a need for a Sabbath of rest, love and delight.



St Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church New Orleans



Okra Abbey



The Irrepressible Meg Garver-Hamilton!

Grace Presbytery PW in New Orleans at Synod Gathering 2022



Tour of the Touro Synagogue in New Orleans—Synod Gathering 2022



End of Year Task -Don't forget: WANTED!! GRACE PRESBYTERY PW HISTORIES

So what was your PW doing in 2022? (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!

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

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

All the Newest and Timeless Resources The 2022 Spring/Summer Resource for Presbyterian Women booklet is ready for you to download, peruse and share the many materials available to promote, strengthen and support Presbyterian Women! Within the pages of this resource, you will find Bible studies, giving envelopes, offering materials, PW tumblers, PW logo items and so much more! Go to presbyterianwomen.org/catalog to print a copy and share at your next circle meeting or to prepare for your next gathering!

PW Gatherings 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering

Save the date for the 2024 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women! Presbyterian Women from near and far will gather August 8–11, 2024 at the Marriott St. Louis Grand in St. Louis, Missouri.

Watch presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for updates!

Grace Presbytery Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team:

Moderator:	Meg Garver-Hamilton 214.632.7003
Moderator Elect:	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 (temp) 817.692.5882
Coordinator of Resources:	Kathy Moriarty, 817.478.7870
Communications Coordinator:	Patty Heeter 214.789.7734
Historian:	Eva Riggs, 817.294.4978
Innovator Editor:	Karen Groman, 254.717.2733
Vice Moderator Clusters: Search	Dian Cooper 972 268.0045 The Rev. Dr. Lucia Kremzar, 817.915.3558
Bylaws and Search	Toni Deaton, 903.886.8781
Vice-Moderator, Bible Study	Rev. Dr. Julie Atkins, 214.662.1455
Cluster Leaders	N6, W4 Sylvia Dobby, 214.883.4288 E3 Patty Kim, 318.564.0303 N3 Carol Ferguson E1-2 Brenda Estes N4 Glennis Parker, 214.372.0607 N2 Lorna Almas W1-3 Mary Howington S1-2 Dian Cooper N1-5 W2 Vacant , cluster Leaders needed

Our Purpose

**Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ,
and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we com-
mit 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





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

Address correction requested

Thursdays In Black <https://www.oikoumene.org/search?keywords=thursdaysinblack&f%5B0%5D=language%3Aen>

2022 Mark your calendars!

September

Thank Offering of PW

- 1 World Day of Prayer for the care of creation
- 5 Labor Day
- 8 International Literacy Day
- 18 Global Week of Action Against Gun Violence begins

October

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- 2 World Communion Sunday
- 9 Domestic Violence Awareness Day
- 11 International Day of the Girl Child
 - National Coming Out Day
 - National Indigenous Peoples Day
- 18 Children's Sabbath

November

Native American Heritage Month

- 5 10 am Coordinating Team Meeting at First Presbyterian, Dallas
- 6 Caregiver Sunday
- 13 World Kindness Day
 - Hunger and Homelessness Sunday
- 24 Thanksgiving
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- 25—Dec 10 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence

December

- 8 International Volunteer day
- 10 International Human Rights Day
- 18 International Migrants Day
- 25 Christmas

February

- 1 Next Innovator Deadline!!!



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.