



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE DES MOINES PRESBYTERY

GRAPEVINE

March 11, 2008

Volume 13 Issue 1

Jeanne Beardsley, Editor

**Announcements and Upcoming Events for Presbyterian Women: ...From Emily Seeger,  
Moderator, PWDM Presbytery, 701 Cedar St., Atlantic, IA 50022 (712) 243-4519  
Seeger@q.com**

1. Looking for a way to advertise the Spring Gathering? In the Jan/Feb 2008 issue of *Horizons* magazine use the center pull out to advertise the meeting:

### **Spring Gathering PW of Des Moines Presbytery**

Saturday, April 12, 2008

8:45 AM to 2:45 PM

First United Presbyterian Church

210 W. Green Street, Winterset, IA 50273

The Theme is: **“Catch the Wind!”**

Lunch at 11:45 a.m./Price: \$5.00

Reservations to Ruth Reed by Wednesday, April 9, 2008

[justme@DWX.com](mailto:justme@DWX.com) or call (515) 462-3261

(Childcare will be provided.)

The speakers for the 2008 Spring Gathering are:

**“To Support the Mission of the Church”** – Denise England, Mission Designate to Egypt

**“To Work for Justice and Peace”** – Margaret Welsh, CCT Synod Representative

**“To Build an Inclusive, Caring Community”** – Jodi Tymeson, State Legislator

2. Things to bring to the **2008 Spring Gathering** for CROSS Ministries:

Laundry Soap

Shampoo

Disposable Diapers

Deodorant

Feminine Products

Toothpaste

3. The **2008 Spring Gathering** will include:

- Celebration of 20 years of PW—1988—2008
- Dedication of Birthday Offering
- Installation of Officers
- Spring Gathering Offering will be split between **Denise England** and **CROSS Ministries**
- Wear a hat if you would like.

4. The **Birthday Offering** will be dedicated at the 2008 Spring Gathering at Winterset, April 12. Please bring your offering in check form for the dedication service. The offering for the Spring Gathering will be divided between Denise England, designated missionary to Egypt and CROSS Ministries in Des Moines

5. We will be celebrating the **20th anniversary of PW** at the Spring Gathering in Winterset. Invitations have been sent to past moderators, who will be recognized at that time. Come and share in the celebration. An original skit is being prepared. If you have specific memories about your PW group from the 1900's, 1920's, 1940's, 1960's, 1988, 2000's send a brief summary to Rev. Linda O'Connell, P. O. Box 79, Lucas, IA 50151 or call (641) 766-6577 as soon as possible, but no later than April 1, 2008. Linda's e-mail address is: [revlinda@iowatelecom.net](mailto:revlinda@iowatelecom.net) .
6. **The Honorary Life Membership Program** has increased the price of a sterling silver Honorary Life Membership pin to \$95. This is the first increase since 1988. A new 10K gold Honorary Life Membership pin is available for \$250. You will need to contact PWP Treasurer Kate Dukelow for forms to accompany your check for the pin.
7. Representing our Synod of Lakes and Prairies, LaDonna Fay has been chosen to participate in the **Beyond Borders Mission Trip**, April 12-19, 2008. During PW's first U.S.A. Mission Experience, Presbyterian Women will focus on immigration and its relationship to violence, poverty, racism, exploitation of women and children, and global economic policies.
8. **There is still time to donate to the Palm Project... SEWING SEEDS OF HOPE IN CONGO**  
A challenge is being made that each local PW in Des Moines Presbytery will participate in making a donation of \$20 to purchase 10 plants for the **PW Palm Project**. The goal is to have 100% participation in our churches to help with this project. The Presbyterian Women's Palm Project is to help with the development of palm plantations in the Congo. Destruction of agricultural capabilities has forced Congo, once the world's largest producer of palm oil, to import cooking oil from Malaysia. With funding from the PW Palm Project, women's groups and hospitals of the Presbyterian Community of the Congo will be able to plant new varieties of Costa Rican palms that produce three times more palm oil than the current stock can produce. One \$20,000 investment from PW will fund 80 hectares of palms that will generate \$200,000 per year for 30 years to subsidize educational programs, hospitals and clinics. A small plantation of 450 palms at a high school will cover the tuition costs for 60 girls. To make your donation, send checks to:

PC (USA)  
PW Remittance Processing  
PO Box 643652  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652

Make checks payable to Presbyterian Women and write "PW Palm Project" on the memo line. Or give online at [www.pcusa.org/pw/giving](http://www.pcusa.org/pw/giving) Once your PW has given, please contact either Kate Dukelow, treasurer, or Emily Seeger, moderator, we're striving for 100%.

9. **PW Congo Project Grows—an update**  
The PW Congo Project started with one idea, a PW Palm Project to replant palm trees in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The project has taken wings and grown – just like the seedling palm trees are doing. Since its inception last summer, Presbyterian women have contributed over \$16,000 to the Palm Project alone. \$20,000 will fund 80 hectares of palms that will generate \$200,000 per year for 30 years. Our moderator, Emily Seeger, has challenged each local PW to make a gift of \$20 to the Palm project which will purchase 10 plants. If your group participated in this challenge, thank you, however, if you are planning on doing so and haven't now is the time.

10. **Global Exchange Mission Trip**  
**Kay Olson** will be our Global Exchange representative to Eastern Europe. September 8–26, 2008. Presbyterian Women will focus on how the changing political climate of Eastern Europe has affected women, the Church, and the Roma people.
11. **God Will Do Wonders Among You!**  
 God will work wonders among Presbyterian Women July 11-15, 2009 at the Triennial Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women. Start saving now for this event in Louisville! This will be the last time the Churchwide Gathering will take place in Louisville, the 2012 event will be held at The Gaylord Palms, Orlando, Florida.
12. I just received some *Horizons* publicity and included is a request for recipes from our own “**Kitchen Queens**”, for possible inclusion in a cookbook inspired by the *Annie, the Kitchen Queen* book. Here are the prerequisites:
1. Recipes must be yours to share (no copyrighted material, such as recipes from other published cookbooks)
  2. Recipes must be emailed to [pwcommunications@pcusa.org](mailto:pwcommunications@pcusa.org)
  3. Recipes must specify the number of people served by the recipe.
  4. Recipes must fall into one of these categories: appetizers, soup and salads, main dishes, sides, beverages, and desserts.
- You may also include the name of your church and memories or anecdotes about your recipe.
13. The **2008-2009 *Horizons* Bible Study, “Jubilee! Luke’s Gospel for the Poor”**, by **Dale Lindsay Morgan**, will be available in the March/April *Horizons*. In nine lessons of this study, the author highlights Jesus’ message of jubilee that calls for the reversal of the social order: the poor will be rich; the rich will be poor. The supplementary Bible Study materials for *Jubilee!* will begin appearing in the July/August 2008 *Horizons*. Other supplemental materials will be “Journey to Jerusalem: A Personal Journal” and “Eyewitness News: Transcripts of Live Interviews with Those Who Saw Jesus”.

### **Want more information about Justice and Peace issues?**

Visit these web sites:

- Immigration issues: [www.detentionwatchnetwork.org](http://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org) and [www.pcusa.org/immigration](http://www.pcusa.org/immigration)
- Trafficking in women and children: [www.eldis.org/go/topics/dossiers/trafficking-in-women-and-children](http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/dossiers/trafficking-in-women-and-children)
- Cocoa farming practices: [www.LaborRights.org](http://www.LaborRights.org) and [www.worldcocoafoundation.org/commitments/responsible.asp](http://www.worldcocoafoundation.org/commitments/responsible.asp)

### **Read the *Horizons* article, “Ready, Set, Advocate!”**

It is written by our own Margaret Welsh on p. 34 of the January/February 2008 issue of *Horizons*. [www.pcusa.org/horizons/magazines/2008/hrznjfb08/justicepeace.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons/magazines/2008/hrznjfb08/justicepeace.htm)

### **From the Treasurer Kate Dukelow, [kdukelo@msn.com](mailto:kdukelo@msn.com)**

Mission giving and pledges needed to be sent to Kate by Dec. 10, 2007 (last year) to be included in your annual giving for 2007. Anything sent after Dec. 10, 2007 is recorded as being given in 2008. Pledges received in 2007 were approximately \$30,000. The pledges for 2008 are down significantly. Twelve PW locals have not reported pledges for the year. Quarterly payments of pledges are due March 10, June 10, September 10 and December 10. Please send to PWP Treasurer, **Kate Dukelow**, 2622 Patricia #309, Urbandale, IA 50322.

## **Together In Service Mission Report**

By Judy Gale, **Mission Matters Coordinator**

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(641) 782-2998

I have tabulated the giving from all of the PW's from the Des Moines Presbytery. It appears that we have a very busy group of women. Thanks for all of your efforts! Here is a summary:

- Palm Project - 20 churches give **\$20.00 each**
- **Heart and Hands Care Clinic in Des Moines** - \$225.00 plus baby clothing, children's clothing, maternity clothing, OTC medicines, first aid, and baby care items
- **Children's Home Assoc. in Council Bluffs** - \$130.00 plus Christmas, personal, first aid, layette, play, house hold, school, and kindergarten kits
- **Rag Dolls 2 Love** - \$32.00 plus 42 dolls
- **Denise England** - Missionary to Egypt - \$25.00 +
- **International AIDS Ministries** - **\$80.00**
- **International Health Ministries** - Baby blankets, baby caps, baby gowns, sheets, and money
- **Morris Fork Crafts Program in Kentucky** - 4 large boxes of supplies
- **El Tablon Cerna, El Salvador** - \$200.00
- **Calvin Community** - \$200.00 plus bingo items, delivering hand-made valentines, volunteering at monthly birthday parties, and money to the Good Samaritan Fund
- **CROSS Ministries in Des Moines** - \$250.00 plus personal care and pantry items
- **New Orleans Reconstruction Fund** - \$100.00
- **Hanson House (for men) in Des Moines** - \$200.00 plus personal items, clothing, blankets, and cooked meals
- **IMA Medicine Kits** - \$276.44
- **Cottage Grove Avenue Presbyterian Church** - \$100.00
- **Sewing Assignment** - \$25.00
- **Des Moines Freedom Center** - 100 quilts
- **Tools of Hope/Blanket Sunday** - \$2,349.00
- **Many donations and services** to local agencies and, missions, PW Offerings, and members in local congregations.

**Notes from Des Moines Presbytery PW Historian Dianne Van Gorp,**

PO Box 1051, Oskaloosa, IA 51577, (641) 673-7864; [vangorpd@mahaska.org](mailto:vangorpd@mahaska.org)

Thank you to all the churches who responded to my plea and sent to me the annual report of the activities and accomplishments of your PW's. Many of you remarked that there aren't many active women in your group, but then went on to list the many things that you accomplished. Presbyterian Women are a mighty force! It is obvious that PW's purpose is alive and well in the many activities you do.

We were privileged again this year to have **Margaret Welsh**, a member of Heartland PW in Clive, be the representative of our Synod of Lakes and Prairies to PW's Churchwide Coordinating Team. Margaret has again been to the Gulf Coast to work on hurricane relief with the rest of the CCT, has attended a UN meeting in New York and is leading the committee to select the author for an upcoming *Horizons* Bible Study. **Dianne Van Gorp** has served as Vice Moderator of PW in the Synod, and **Emily Seeger** represents our presbytery on the PW Synod Coordinating Team. Emily also did an outstanding job as chair of the 2007 PW Synod Gathering. **Sharon Falck**, vice moderator of PW in our presbytery also had a key role in planning the gathering and others from our presbytery served in other ways.

Without exception, PW's in our presbytery are praying, studying the Bible, supporting missions near and far and caring for each other and their fellow church members. Many groups use the *Horizons* Bible Studies for their study, but others have chosen another resource. Not mentioned in the following reports is the support of PW's of the missions of the denomination through their pledges and Birthday and Thank Offerings. Most also participate in the Fellowship of the Least Coin and many have given to the Palm Project in Congo and Denise England.



**Here are some specifics of what happened in PW's around the Presbytery of Des Moines:**

**Atlantic** has three circles. They made baby quilts for CROSS Ministries and sold Christmas cards with a photo of their church to raise money to support Denise England. School kits and seeds for hurricane relief were other projects.

**Guthrie Center** found a great leader for their Bible study this year. Their outreach included delivering Meals on Wheels, hosting Lions Club lunches and helping with bingo at the nursing home. They had a garage sale fund raiser.

**Sigourney PW's** mission projects included donations to Denise England, the PW Palm Project, Children's Square USA, Heart and Hands Clinic, Church Women United and Keokuk County Hospice. They drew names for secret sisters and sent cards and gifts for special occasions.

**Greenfield** tries to involve all the women of the church. There are two circles and PW meets once a month as a whole. Their church has a pantry, and of course, PW women are active in running that. Besides that, they gave to the local crisis center, Heart and Hands and CAP—an Appalachian mission. They also play bingo four times a year at the Manor. Being together, caring about and helping each other is what keeps them going.

**Hartford Church's** fund raisers include an annual smorgasbord, potato supper and bake sale, soup supper and funeral meals, wedding receptions and a birthday party. They decorate their church for Christmas.

The women of the **United Christian/Presbyterian Church of Bedford** had a busy year. They support missions of both denominations as well as Children's Home in Council Bluffs, Cross, Heart and Hands and the Palm project. They made eight baby blankets and knitted baby caps and sent these and sheets to International Health Ministries. They purchased advent devotionals and Advent mobiles for kids and collected 44 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and purchased and delivered flowers for their shut-ins and held 10 monthly meetings. The big event of the year was a recognition of one of their members, **92-year old Ellen Lemke**, who has been active in all facets of their church. This is what Diane Ware, PW president writes, "This lady has been known to cause *near accidents* as people craned their necks while driving down the highway to see Ellen skipping rope with the kids in the after-school program." Ellen is also a composer of gospel songs, and the choir sang some of them during the special service.

**Grinnell** had a Muffins for Mission (M & M) Sunday when they served muffins for coffee time after worship and collected donations for medical kits. This year they started a new Wednesday evening meeting inviting all the women to join in. They had a variety of programs, some speakers, some activities like rolling bandages or making note cards or bracelets. They are donating to and finding out about the PW Palm Project. There are two monthly Bible study groups.

**Highland Park** has three circles. Their big fundraiser is a bazaar and rummage sale. They gathered school supplies for CROSS Ministries and cook and serve a Wednesday night dinner once a month.

**Union Park's** mission projects included a mission tree, co-hosting the Halloween party at Calvin Community, donating to CROSS Ministries' school supplies, making breakfast casseroles for the Salvation Army to deliver to homeless and a Christmas hat and mitten tree. They also made monetary donations to Denise England, Heart and Hands, Church Women United's clothing fund and the Women Helping Women project of the Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center. And there was the *Horizons* Bible Study.

**United Church of Deep River** is a Presbyterian/Methodist congregation and call themselves United Church Women. Rather than a structured lesson at their monthly meetings, they have a sharing time. Each person shares something, maybe a story, scripture or anything else they want to share. "We are truly a support group to each other, our church and our community." They serve funeral dinners for any member of their community who needs it, regardless of church membership. They are very involved in the activities of the community as well as providing many meals for church functions. This year they also donated to a former member's legal fund when she had been unjustly accused of child abuse. They purchased fleece for a mission in Afghanistan. They also support their church budget and are raising funds to renovate their church kitchen.

**Monroe Westminster Circle** supported Camp Courageous, Camp Sunnyside, Progress Industries, Clearview Recovery and various other local projects, as well as their pledge to PW and the Thank Offering. They meet monthly for Bible study.

**Grimes PW** welcomes all the women of their congregation. They raise funds through their pie sale and ice cream social. They have an active prayer chain. Their Bible Study is open to both women and men. They support the PW offerings as well as DMARC, Grimes Food Pantry and CROSS Ministries. Besides Bible Study, they had several other meetings, including one when David Madsen of Cottage Grove Church came to tell them about the role Cross Ministries plays in the community.

Women from ages 30 to 93 are active in the **PW in Malcom**. They have monthly meetings and have an annual bake sale to raise funds and buy gifts at Christmas through their Angel Tree. They gave out pen/bookmark favors for Mother's Day, put communion inserts in hymnals and helped with various local projects. They also made and delivered 20 Christmas plates and three flowers to members and shut-ins, and sent cards to members and friends. "We are a small group, but we know that with God's help, we have done big things!"

The women of the **Ewart Presbyterian Church** meet four times a year for Bible study. Their small active membership met its mission pledge goal and also supported the special offerings. Two of their members decorate the church for all holiday seasons.

**St. Paul Presbyterian Women** collected items for Beacon of Life, volunteered at Calvin Community, contributed to Blanket Sunday, and purchased baby items for overseas hospitals and school supplies for Children's Home in Council Bluffs. They contributed food and money for the Food Pantry. They also helped purchase a new refrigerator for their kitchen.

**The Park Avenue PW** encouraged all their church members to participate in their mission projects and made and sent 59 baby caps, 56 baby gowns and 5 blankets for overseas mission. They also made and sent 26 rag dolls to Rag Dolls 2 Love, to be sent to children with AIDS or in war situations. They sponsored a mitten tree. They support their church's budget and gave \$1,500 towards church repairs. They furnish special bulletin covers at Easter and during Advent.

**Douglas Avenue PW** gave three Honorary Life Memberships and made many mission contributions: medicine kit; sheets, baby blankets and caps; items for "Lighthouse Host Homes;" food pantry; CROSS Ministries; bingo prizes for Calvin Community. They have an ingathering in May when church members bring items for local missions, cancelled stamps, eye glasses and pop can tabs. They hold their Christmas

program at Calvin Community. At the end of the year, like many PW's, they distribute unspent funds to local charities.

**Winterset PW** meets three times for general meetings and has four circles which meet monthly. Three circles do Bible studies and the fourth, called Hands to God, meets to do crafts and have a devotional concerning stitching or handwork. The annual May Breakfast is the big fundraiser for the year. The craft group organizes a bazaar for the whole congregation. They support missions near and far.

**Platte Center PW** has a unique method of raising funds. Every month two of them volunteer to be "patients" for the Southwestern Community Hospital Nursing program, to give students practice. They're paid \$7.50 an hour, so they're able to give more to missions, which include many local groups, one of which involved socks for the elementary school. They also participate in the 2 cents-a-meal for hunger program and purchased a medicine kit. Although a small number, "ladies that participate would be quick to say it's a very rewarding part of our lives." They meet monthly.

**Adair PW** has a group which meets weekly to make banners for the church. Other activities include making homemade ice cream for the Jesse James Celebration, a Hunter's Breakfast. They enjoy being on the watch for good used or new clothing for Heart and Hands. They serve snacks to travelers at the rest area near Adair on I80 on Labor Day and in July, working from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or until their goodies run out. Calling on homebound members is also a priority.

**LeRoy PW** raises money for the Thank and Birthday Offerings by having each woman keep a bank in which she puts an offering for something she's thankful for. Several women made a quilt that was auctioned at the local Harvest Festival Day. They donated to the Palm Tree project and Angel Tree in Humeston.

**Newton United's** programs had a quilting theme. A special guest quilter brought quilts to display, they had a quilting day for all women of the church and made quilted Christmas stockings for shut-ins, complete with the recipient's name monogrammed on them. They packed Christmas boxes for a nursing home. They loved doing the Christmas stockings.

**Allerton PW** took 150 infant garments to Heart and Hands, made pies for the care center birthday party and supported the Palm Project.

**Heartland PW** has two circles and consider all women of the church to be part of PW. They donated money and items to the DMARC Food Pantry, CROSS Ministries, Calvin Good Samaritan Fund, Hansen House and El Tablon Cerna, as well as the PW special offerings. They send care packages to college freshmen twice a year, have a Sunshine Fund for their own members and have Secret Pals. A popular event is Advent by Candlelight on the first Monday of Advent, with decorated tables, dessert and Christmas music.

**Centerville PW's** highlight was the Christmas Dinner. After a few days without electricity in Centerville, 23 women welcomed the opportunity for fellowship, warmth and good food. They served six Men's Brotherhood dinners, helped with the Lenten services and the Secretary's Day Luncheon. They take meals to church members when they come home from the hospital. They sent craft supplies to Appalachia and gave baby and personal care items to SIEDA.

**Oskaloosa PW** welcomed Margaret Welsh to its fall brunch to tell them about PW's work on a national level. A February mini-retreat at the church is a popular time to escape winter and a meeting at a local tearoom in the spring was also well attended. There is one circle which meets monthly. Mission projects involved a CWS Blanket Sunday and donation of children's items for SIEDA for children who are removed suddenly from their homes. Fund raisers included selling Advent boxes and hosting dinners for groups who enjoy our Fellowship Hall and cooking.

**GRAPEVINE NEWSLETTER  
PRESBYTERY OF DES MOINES  
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URBANDALE, IOWA 50322-4306**

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**PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY  
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**PARK AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH recognizes  
Irene Golliday for her 25 years of service as Clerk of Session with an  
Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women. Congratulations!  
Irene has served many years on the PW of Des Moines Presbytery  
Coordinating Team, and on the Calvin Community Women's Auxiliary.**

***Catch the Wind!***

**Presbyterian Women of Des Moines Presbytery**

**SPRING GATHERING**

**SATURDAY, April 12, 2008**

**First Presbyterian Church in Winterset**

**(See details inside)**