

## *Moderator's Report*



Presbyterian Women in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery  
March 26, 2011

**Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the women of Mid-Kentucky commit ourselves (realizing that some of our events/activities fall into more than one goal of the purpose):**

### **-to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study**

**Annual Horizons Bible Study, July 17, 2010...**Eighty-five women (Mid-Kentucky, Ohio Valley, and Transylvania) registered to hear Janice Catron present *Journeys through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today* at Second Presbyterian Church. As always, Janice made the information understandable and gave us encouragement to teach the material in our churches.

**Annual Prayer Service, September 11, 2010...**The Eighth Annual Prayer Service was held at Briargate Presbyterian Church. Approximately 75 persons gathered to remember this day in prayer. The speaker was Sonia Williams, Seminarian at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. The offering of \$312.00 was dedicated to The Center for Women and Families.

### **-to support the mission of the church worldwide**

**Spring Gathering 2010, March 27, 2010...** Hopewell Presbyterian Church hosted our annual business meeting (including installation of new leadership) and *PW's Got Talent*. Twelve churches provided various talents for *PW's Got Talent*. Joyce Dotson, newly retired Moderator of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, was MC for a fun-filled morning. Ruth Farrell, Coordinator of the Hunger Program, shared her experiences of Haiti with us and the offering, \$2,242.15, was collected for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (half designated for Haiti and the other half to be used as needed). A vital part of this morning was Gloria Moorman's departure as Moderator. Along with words of praise and gifts, Gloria received the Honorary Life Membership for her faithful service to PW.

### **-to work for justice and peace**

**Quilts for Kids Ministry Challenge...**The Presbyterian Women of First Presbyterian Church, Bardstown, KY offered a challenge to the women in each church in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery. At the Fall Gathering, they challenged each church to make at least one quilt to be on display and then be presented to a Bellewood Representative during our Spring Gathering. These quilts will be given to each youth when they arrive at Bellewood as way to experience feelings of warmth, welcome, and security and will be cherished long after they leave Bellewood's care. There was such a great response that we had to include a line on the registration form so that we could plan for the display and Bellewood could plan for a vehicle large enough to accommodate this incredible gesture of love for the children of Bellewood.

**Spring Gathering 2011, March 26, 2011...** Second Presbyterian Church will host a **Native American Celebration!** We look forward to Anthony Redfeather Nava who lives the Native American traditions of

his Kituhwa Cherokee and Pascua Yaqui family through teaching performance, and craft . Carolyn Diener, Harvey Browne Presbyterian, will share experiences on her USAME to reservations in South Dakota in September, 2010. PWMKP was one of her sponsors. After the gathering, Carolyn would like to continue to explore, with Presbyterian Women, the Native Americans in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery to determine if there are needs that are going unmet.

At our invitation, Ann Ferguson, Coordinator, Presbyterian Women, attended our February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Coordinating Team to talk with us about **Human Trafficking**, an issue that PWMKP is exploring on a local level. Ann shared her experiences and encouraged us to continue our path of seeking knowledge so that we can do something about the amount of slavery surrounding us in MKP. A committee was formed at that meeting with the hope and prayer that others will join Ann and PWMKP as we move forward in this area.

### **-to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom**

Our **PW Choir** debuted at Fall Gathering 2010 under the leadership of Karen McDonald Smith, who has become The Reverend Karen McDonald Smith and no longer able to direct our joyful voices. We so appreciated her great faith and willingness to take us as we were without audition or age requirements and encourage us to sing Joyful Noises Unto the Lord. The choir will sing at Fall Gathering under new leadership.

A **Church Moderator's Group** was formed after the church moderators requested a group for support and training. This group meets monthly at Strathmoor Presbyterian to explore ways in which they can develop their vision and have their needs met as they seek to serve through PW.

**Fall Gathering 2010, October 16, 2010...**Trinity Presbyterian Church hosted "Here I Am, Lord...Send Somebody Else!". There were approximately 115 attendees. Emily Seeger delivered the keynote; Bardstown, First offered a challenge to the churches to make at least one quilt for Bellewood's "Quilts for Kids Ministry"; the PW Choir debuted; several workshops (training and others) were well attended. An offering of \$795.00 was dedicated to the Presbyterian Community Center's Child Development Center.

**Churchwide Gathering in 2012...*Rivers of Hope*...**We are in the process of recruiting someone to be our Bus Organizer as we recruit women to fill one or more buses. I look forward to serving as one of the two commissioners from MKP to Orlando, Florida.

### **And to communicate our purpose...**

This section has preoccupied my thoughts since I became Co-Moderator two years ago. How do we share such a good thing?

**Within the Presbytery...**First, at MKP meetings, I take a display and handouts. One of the constant flyers is "To Pray or Participate." This is a calendar of events that includes much information, including upcoming opportunities. Additionally, the one minute announcement time during the meetings is used to "plug" the more urgent matters. PWMKP is so active, it is a great challenge to limit myself to one minute. PW news has been greatly received and I have been encouraged to continue to bring the good news at each meeting. We have continually encouraged churches to give us their information to include in our material and one minute. We need to support each other in our good works.

Second, the web is a great tool. MKP's website is another place where our information is shared. They have been so gracious in creating a Presbyterian Women button where I can post current information.

One of our challenges and that of the Cluster Leaders is getting information to the churches who do not

have email or web access. Of course, snail mail is still used on a regular basis. I do find, however, that churches tend to have a Presbyterian Women box and are willing to accept emails on PW's behalf. Saving postage and trees is just being a good Presbyterian.

Soon Eun Kim, from Calvin Presbyterian Church, has designed and is sewing a new PW banner for us to use at gatherings. We are hopeful it will be finished by our Fall Gathering in October. The banner is remarkable and represents us well and we look forward to its display at synod and churchwide gatherings, as well..

**Synod of Living Waters...**I post items to the PW website through Jackie Riddle, CT Moderator, to Polly Banks, who posts the information to the PW website.

**PCUSA...**I make an effort to attend all gatherings when it is feasible. It allows me to be available for suggestions/comments/concerns. I find that much work is accomplished at gatherings of any kind.

**Church Women United...** I was contacted by them to become the Presbyterian Representative and now on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at their annual meeting, I will be installed as Chair of Ecumenical Celebrations for this county. To date, my responsibilities have been to attend general meetings and I was involved with two World Day of Prayer 2011 services, both as a member of the planning team and a reader for the services.

My time as Convener/Moderator of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery has been an incredible journey. I reread this and say, "No wonder that I am tired!", but during the walk through these months the blessings have been too numerous to count and what an honor it is to do the work of Christ on Earth through Presbyterian Women.

We all know that our numbers are declining and our ages increasing. I pray each day that this does not deter us from fulfilling the PW Purpose. Gathering folks is God's job (John 10, etc.). Ours is to grow in our faith and use our gifts to do the work that we have been called to do. PW is all about good works and for the most part, these works are done in a quiet way as an act of faith. We can find a lot of hope in these many acts of love. Presbyterian Women will always be needed as long as the Good Lord calls us to serve. And...something that we cannot forget, when there is change there is always a multitude of opportunities.

On a personal level...My family and Miles (Pomeranian/Border Collie mix) continue to keep me honest; I still write; and as of January 16, 2011, sit on the session at Strathmoor Presbyterian.

Thank you for choosing me; for listening and giving me feedback; and for being willing to journey with me in a very exciting time, not only in our denomination, but in the world, as well.

*Nancy*

Nancy Aubel  
Convener/Moderator