

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN PRESBYTERY OF NORTH ALABAMA

2009-2010 Annual Report

North Alabama Presbytery PW have been honored to host this year's PW Synod Triennial Gathering in Huntsville, June 3-5, 2010. It has required much work and planning on the part of Stella Wilson, co-director of the event, and the PW of Huntsville First PC. Gladys Bracy of Fellowship PC served as registrar for day students. We are so blessed to have such an active and willing group in our presbytery.

Our Spring Gathering was held April 14, 2009, at Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, with 81 in attendance. The offering of \$869.31 was designated to go to Mission Haven. Anna McIlwain, our Global Exchange representative, spoke on her recent trip to the Czech Republic and Ukraine. Mary Weber, PWS Moderator, installed our new leaders, and we were entertained by the Huntsville Spiritual Chorale. Area women involved in a prayer shawl ministry had display tables of numerous beautiful shawls they had made recently which inspired others to take up the project. Immediately afterward I left to attend the Come See Columbia celebration in Decatur GA where outgoing Columbia President, Laura Mendenhall provided the sermon. It was a very colorful and festive event where all the presbyteries represented entered carrying banners. PW moderators with stoles were asked to wear them. Several asked to take pictures of our stole as it is so beautiful and could be easily adapted to their own area.

Seven women from NAP PW were able to attend the Churchwide PW Triennial Gathering in Louisville, KY July 11-15. Stella Wilson and Lucy Harris represented this presbytery as voting delegates to the business meeting. Slightly more than a week later Sarah Ford and Lucy Harris represented NAP PW at the Alabama/Mississippi Women's Conference in Starkville, MS, July 21-24. It's unfortunate that so few from our area were able to attend, as I felt it was one of the best AL/MS conferences I've attended. Among other highlights, Mary Mikhael was there from Beirut, Lebanon to teach the Bible Study on Joshua: A Journey of Faith, and one of the evening meals was a catered Lebanese banquet. This was a new experience for me, and the food was delicious.

Leadership training was held in Florence on August 25, 2009. Unfortunately, there were more trainers than trainees at the event. We will be considering different ways to present training in the future.

Fall Gathering was held on September 15, 2009, at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Decatur. The offering of \$551.75 from this gathering went to the local Multi Denominational Food Kitchen. Sarah Ford, Gladys Bracy, Geneva Wright, Rosalie Lane and Stella Wilson presented a review of the recent Churchwide PW Triennial Gathering. Jan Foster gave an overview of this year's Bible Study, along with Rev. Steve Arndt.

October 14 -16, incoming Moderator, Carol Copeland, represented us at the Columbia Friendship Council Meeting and the Mission Haven Board meeting before going on to Mobile for the Oct 18 & 19 AL/MS 2010 planning meeting. In the middle of this time I attended the PWS CT Meeting in Birmingham Oct 16 & 17.

As you can see, it has been a busy year with lots of traveling, but filled with such wonderful experiences. I have truly enjoyed my two years as moderator and am looking forward to assisting Carol as she takes the reins to lead us for the next two years.

Lucy Harris