

PWS CT Meeting Devotional

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Jan Harrington was a normally reserved woman. She had an inner peace which allowed her to bring calm to chaotic situations. Several years ago while at the airport, Jan and her sister were checking their luggage when her sister's purse fell onto the moving conveyor. Struggling to retrieve the purse, her sister was headed toward the baggage loading area when Jan called out "Sister, come back! I bought tickets for *both* of us!"

Sometimes life can seem that chaotic -like we're moving, without control, toward the unknown at a frightening speed. And even when we find ourselves, in our times of quiet distress, saying "God, I didn't buy a ticket for this trip..." as Christians we have cause for hope.

We know that in the midst of chaos that we have a compass; a loving God who has sent His Spirit to guide us, and the promise of His perfect plan.

In Psalm 25, verse 4-5 we read: "Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me for you are God my savior, and my hope is in you all day long."

When we actively seek God's will and allow His Spirit to move us in the direction he has mapped, we find that our *choices* often become clear, like calm waters.

We can choose how we see others, and love them while looking beyond the perceived shortcomings in their lives. We can choose *trust* over fear; *compassion* over apathy; *forgiveness* over anger; *peace* over conflict; *prayer* instead of worry. We can live our lives each day to mirror Christ's example.

In fact, one of the great blessings of having freewill is that we receive the abundant blessings set aside for us when we allow God's will to guide our paths. We also gain peace in the midst of chaos; peace which we then can share with others.

Choosing every day to listen for God's will, and setting aside our own, is perhaps the best plan to get where we need to be.

Prayer: God, thank you that you are the author and perfecter of our faith. We are reassured that our lives are not accidental, but part of your great plan for our world. Father, bless the work of each Presbyterian women here today. Help us to make time for silence and solitude so that we can listen for the direction of your Spirit. In the name of Christ who gives us life and purpose, AMEN.

Christ Candle: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.