



The PW WAVE



Lake Erie Presbytery

July 2010

PW Synod of the Trinity 2010 Gathering

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.”
Corinthians 11: 9:15

The Synod Gathering this year had a Christmas theme: *“Celebrate the Ultimate Gift”*. There were Christmas items beautifully placed and utilized throughout the Gathering. Each Presbytery brought a small decorated tree. (*Thank you to everyone who gave me a decoration - our tree looked very nice!*) Each day we received a small sign of Christmas - a candy cane, a Moravian Christmas star, and an angel ornament. The stage was decorated with luminaries, a large hanging Moravian Star and a beautiful Nativity scene. It was relaxing and beautiful. **Christ was the center of our days and we were filled with wonder and awe at this indescribable gift.**

In addition to carrying out the business of PW (electing and installing officers, receiving updates and making changes to our by-laws), **we sang - oh, did we sing!** Funny songs, songs that made us move, spiritual songs, old favorites and new songs. These women know how to sing!

Another very important part each day was the insights of Rev. Pam Maloney on our new Horizons Bible Study: Journeys Through Revelation. She made comparisons with the Star Wars Trilogy and really worked to help us understand Revelation. She started by asking, *“How many of you looked at the Bible study title and thought – arrgh – I don’t really want to study this?”* **Many of us raised our hands!** She implored us to reconsider and, **WOW**, after hearing her – reconsider I did! Please consider using the Horizons Bible Study. **Revelation ultimately is a book of hope that sustains those who are oppressed.** In nine lessons, Barbara Rossing leads us to a renewed creation in which God comes to live with us on earth. This hope-filled vision speaks to us in the midst of the urgent crises of our day. (Go to www.pcusa.org/horizons to read more about the study).

Our last major activity was to learn more about mission projects and **the important role PW plays in contributing to Mission through our pledges and offerings.** One project I will elaborate on was the bringing of *“white gifts”* to the Gathering. ***PW of Lake Erie: pat yourselves on the back - we brought a lot of white gifts!*** Your generosity was very clear as our many white gifts helped fill a truckload of gifts for the **Corner Cupboard Food Bank** of Greene County. Thank you for your contributions!

The Gathering ended with Communion and an invitation to attend new Regional Gatherings next summer. I’m already looking forward to next time!

From the desk of the Moderator

*“May you have the gladness of Christmas which is hope;
the spirit of Christmas which is peace; the heart
of Christmas which is love.”*

Quote by Ada V. Hendricks, from Synod Gathering booklet

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful sunshine and slower pace that sometimes comes with summertime! I recently got back from my very first PW in the Synod of the Trinity Gathering. **It was WONDERFUL!** It was such a spirit filled three days of worshipping, learning and sharing with PW from around our Synod.

Four other women from our presbytery attended: **Kathy Hohmann, Margo Huston, Gerry Rhoades and Janet Gadsby.** What a great event to attend together! I never realized that our Synod Gathering was such a quality event (shame on me!) I strongly encourage you to consider attending next year- you won’t regret your investment of time and money. When the spirit of Jesus Christ fills you – well you feel so blessed and full of energy.

I pledge to take this energy and guidance from the Gathering and share it with you at our PW Fall Gathering coming up on October 23rd at Oil City First. **Please make plans now to inform the women of your church of the Fall Gathering and join us as we connect as PW in the Presbytery of Lake Erie.**

Enjoy your summer! Blessings!

Karen Haas

2010 Synod Mission Project

This year's Synod of the Trinity's project is the **"Home for Girls at Risk - Pakistan Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan."**

Pakistan is going through an era of economic depression in which the female community is the most highly affected group. Young girls are exposed to specific risks and their rights are violated every day.

Children are victims of man-made catastrophes and girls from minority groups are victims of racism. Some girls are exposed without protection to psychological and emotional hardships, living under threatening conditions, and victims of violence in the families.

This project will provide shelter and counseling to the women and girls at risk.

We will have more information and handouts on this Synod Project at the Fall Gathering in October.