



Synod of the Covenant

Presbyterian Women's Newsletter

Fall 2025

From the Moderator:

Summer of 2025 is drawing to a close. I hope yours went well. One highlight of my summer was our gathering in June at Battle Creek, Michigan. I was delighted to see so many of you there. I wish I could have spoken with all of you. The women of First Presbyterian in Battle Creek did a wonderful job of hosting. They even had to deal with a funeral the morning of the first day. Thank you, ladies! Thanks also go to Anita Betts, Audra Carr and their team for planning such a terrific gathering. We had good plenary speakers, workshop leaders and worship leaders. You can read more about it later in this newsletter.

In October, the Coordinating Team will meet to begin planning our next gathering. We already have confirmed that Southminster Presbyterian Church in the Dayton, Ohio area will host us on July 24-25, 2026. Please save the date.

Our bylaws changed so that we no longer have the position of Leadership Development Coordinator. This was approved at our gathering in June. At one time, this was an important position. However, over the past several years, Presbytery PW's have not requested help in this area and when a leadership workshop was offered at a gathering, no one signed up. If you are interested in being on the Coordinating Team, we need a woman from Ohio for the Search Committee. Other positions will open up to begin a term starting summer of 2026. If you are interested, please contact Carol Jaeger, Search Committee Chair.

(caroljaeger1@gmail.com)

Have a blessed Autumn!

Lee Lohr, Moderator

LeelaAnn60@gmail.com

440-396-6593 (mobile)

.....

Donations Report for PW Synod of the Covenant Gathering, Battle Creek, MI

WOW! The generosity of Presbyterian Women never ceases to amaze me. Following is a list of donations and how I disbursed them.

Audra and I were able to assemble 103 complete hygiene kits and my husband delivered them to the PDA Lansing drop off site.

I must confess I dropped the ball on an accurate items list, so we received band aids and hand towels that were not on the new list and I had to pick up some additional items that weren't on the list that was sent out. I hadn't made my donation yet, so I donated those items.

The extras were distributed as follows:

Advent House Ministries – Lansing, MI:

2 bath towels, 55 hand towels, 29 washcloths, 20 dish cloths
63 bars of soap
30 toothbrushes
38 various combs and picks
2 boxes Kleenex
1 container of Gold Bond Powder
694 Band aids
692 Gallon Ziploc bags

Ronald McDonald House – Lansing, MI

38 hotel size lotions
15 hotel size shampoos
18 hotel size conditioners
20 hotel size soaps
20 sample size floss

10 toothbrushes
5 travel size toothpaste
2 travel size Kleenex
2 nail clippers
690 Band aids
692 gallon Ziploc bags

Love Inc. – an organization located in Muskegon, MI which collects and distributes hygiene supplies to the migrant workers of West Michigan

10 small and 10 large tubes of toothpaste
30 toothbrushes
23 bars of soap
490 Band aids
192 gallon Ziploc bags

Holt Community Food Bank
694 gallon Ziploc bags

A huge thank you to all that contributed.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Betts
2025 Synod of the Covenant Gathering Coordinator

.....

At the 2025 Gathering we hosted WAR, International, they sent us items to sell for them and they also spoke explaining how they help women recover from human trafficking. We received this letter from them after the gathering.

*Hello Anita,
I just wanted to tell you the impact that your party you hosted on June 27th had.*

*You were able to raise \$1,381.08. That means you have provided a safe place for a man, woman, or child for a little over 138 days.
Wow! That is so amazing!!*

Thank you so much for all your help in lifting lives to dignity and creating circles of protection around at-risk and rescued individuals.

You are such a Blessing. We could not do what we do without people like!

Would you want to host again around the same time next year?

With Joy,
Tiffani



Tiffani Andrews / Event Call Center | Remote Lead Response & Hostess Success Representative
Women At Risk International™ | (616) 606-3781
tandrews@warinternational.org



We also received cash donations at the Gathering. We sent \$1,000 to Presbyterian Disaster Agency, \$300 Donation to WAR, and \$200 to National PW as a recognition gift for their participation in the gathering.

Thank you all for your generosity so we can give these donations!!!

Many women at the gathering requested a copy of the “Land Acknowledgement”. Below is a copy for you.

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge we are all currently living on land taken by force or by trickery by European invaders from across the sea. This land was loved, cared for and honored by countless generations of indigenous people.

These people continue to be systematically abused by policies and practices that remove their histories, culture, language and rights from this place.

We acknowledge and honor the people enslaved, brought to this country against their will and through their forced labor and abuse, built the wealth and very foundation of this country.

We recognize the history of the United State includes complicity in the attempted genocide of a people, and of the sin of white supremacy.

This land on which we walk, pray, laugh, and weep – this land is stained by the blood and sweat, moans and tears of our indigenous and African siblings.

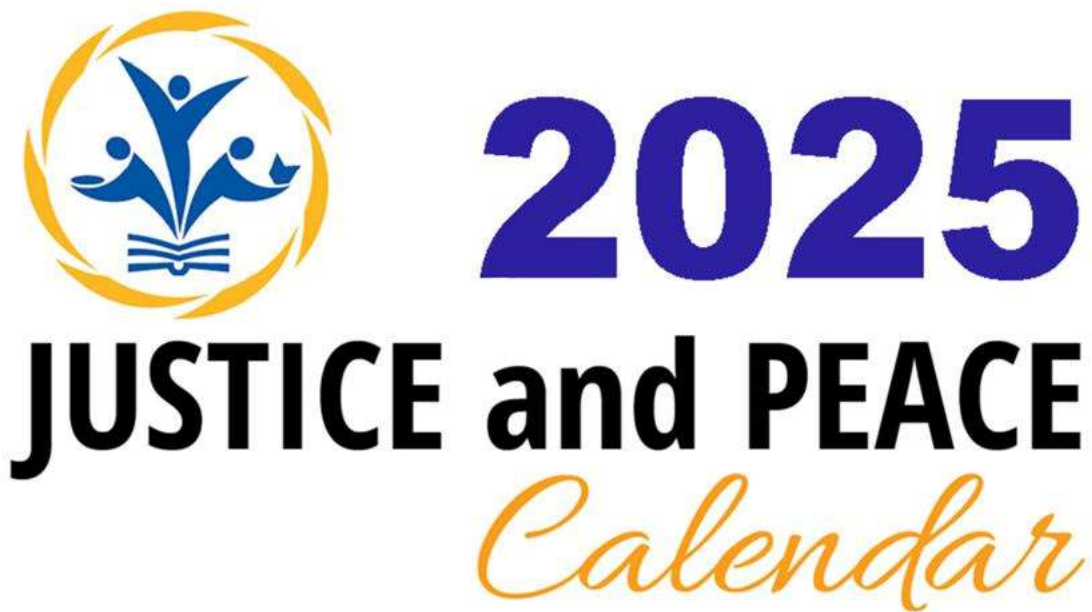
We acknowledge our sin against these people and we commit to the process of dismantling structural racism in all the spaces of our lives, our homes, communities, churches and country.

Let us pray:

O God of all peoples and nations, open our eyes to the wonder and majesty of all humankind. Help us to confess the times and places where those who came before us— and we ourselves— have denied the fullness of humanity to those around us and demanded that they surrender to our desires. Guide and direct all the work we do as we lead your church, that your Spirit may lead us to new patterns that engage your world and your beloved children with the same honor and dignity that you have shown us in your Son Jesus Christ, who comes to make us and all things new. Amen.

.....

2025 Justice and Peace Calendar for OCTOBER



Each month in 2025, we will send items from PW Churchwide's Justice and Peace Calendar. Feel free to share the information with friends and family, your congregation and/or include it in your PW newsletter.

Working for Justice and Peace		2025
JANUARY	1. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	1. MLK Day
FEBRUARY	2. Black History Month	2. Black History Month
MARCH	3. Women's History Month	3. Women's History Month
APRIL	4. National Minority Health Month	4. National Minority Health Month
MAY	5. National African American Heritage Month	5. National African American Heritage Month
JUNE	6. Juneteenth	6. Juneteenth
JULY	7. Independence Day	7. Independence Day
AUGUST	8. National Black Leadership Initiative Project	8. National Black Leadership Initiative Project
SEPTEMBER	9. National Hispanic Heritage Month	9. National Hispanic Heritage Month
OCTOBER	10. National American Indian Heritage Month	10. National American Indian Heritage Month
NOVEMBER	11. National Native American Heritage Month	11. National Native American Heritage Month
DECEMBER	12. National Christmas Tree Month	12. National Christmas Tree Month

Want the J&P calendar for the entire year?

[Click here](#) to download the PDF or visit the Justice and Peace webpage at presbyterianwomen.org/justice, where you can also find additional details.

J&P Calendar for October 2025

- **Domestic Violence Awareness Month;**
ncadv.org/take-action; nomore.org; presbyterianwomen.org/justice or presbyterianmission.org/ministries/phe-wa
- **Fair Trade Month;**
fairtradefederation.org/celebrate-fair-trade-month
- **National Disability Employment Awareness Month;** dol.gov/agencies/odep/initiatives/ndeam

05 World Communion Sunday; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/world-communion-sunday

11 International Day of the Girl Child;
unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child

11 National Coming Out Day;
hrc.org/resources/national-coming-out-day

12 Children's Sabbath: Educate a Child; presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/child/childrens-sabbath

13 Indigenous Peoples' Day; americanindian.si.edu/nk360/informational/columbus-day-myths

16 World Food Day;
fao.org/world-food-day/home/en

24 United Nations Day;
un.org/en/observances/un-day

Presbyterian Women's Annual Mission Fund (the Mission Pledge) makes possible every mission, program and resource of PW. Give now to support Presbyterian Women's witness in the world.

.....

An invitation from the Presbyterian Women of Scioto Valley Presbytery:

The PW/PSV would like extend an invitation to The Synod of the Covenant to join the PW/PSV Winter Gathering Saturday, November 8, 2025, from 9:30 - 3 pm
Our theme for this year is Overcoming Divisions - 1 Corinthians 12:25

We are excited to have Kelsey Law, Vice Moderator, Presbyterian Women, Inc, lead our Worship Service, and will be leading a breakout room on CSW. She will be highlighting the experience of our delegation to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) - bringing global stories of advocacy, justice, and resilience right to our local community working in partnership with the Presbyterian Ministry at the UN.

We will , also, be having a Mission Fair.

If you have any questions, please contact Jayne G Elgin, jayneelgin@yahoo.com
614.715.6029

\$20 Registration. Deadline Saturday, November 1, 2025

Make a check payable to PWPSV and send registration to:

Betsy Sebastian, PWPSV REGISTRAR

3259 Avalon Road Columbus OH 43221

219.208.5602. betsyseb95@gmail.com

Name _____

Home Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Church _____

Total # Coming _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Have you visited our Facebook Page? Please check it out – *Presbyterian Women Synod of the Covenant*. We try to keep you updated on all upcoming events and news of past events.

SAVE THE DATES:

Synod of the Covenant Presbyterian Women Gathering will be at Southminster Presbyterian Church in the Dayton, Ohio area on July 24-25, 2026

2027 Churchwide Gathering will be at the Gault House in Louisville, KY, Aug 5-8, 2027

Please share what your PWs are doing! Please email me so I can include it. Newsletters will be sent out quarterly. Next deadline will be December 1, 2025.

Thank you in advance!

Pat McBride patmcbride0804@gmail.com

SoC Communicator