

**Presbyterian Women
Synod of Mid America
Saturday Synod Circle Gathering
April 10, 2021**

The Presbyterian Women Synod of Mid America met for the fifth “Synod Circle” Gathering by Zoom on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 10:00 am.

There were 35 screens/devices at the meeting representing over 40 women. All six presbyteries in the synod were represented.

The Rev. Glenda Watts, Moderator opened the meeting by leading the gathered women through a breathing exercise and sharing the story of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene following his resurrection in the Gospel of John.

Joy Durrant, Vice Moderator for Justice and Peace from the Churchwide Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women shared information with the women gathered:

There are two initiatives for Presbyterian Women in this triennium:

- SUD (Substance User Disorder)
- Eco Justice

Information about both initiatives can be found on the PW website J&P page

- J&P Page at the PW Website: https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/work-for-justice/
- Substance Use Disorder Flyer: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/substance-use-disorder-responses-flier/>
- Eco-justice Flyer: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/eco-justice-flier/>

Joy recommended the following resources for PW groups:

- The Prayer and Beyond leaflet
 - Prayer & Beyond, A Faithful Response in Times of Trouble: PW Store - PWR 19205 (English), PWR 20208 (Korean), PWR 20207 (Spanish) or download at <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/prayer-beyond/>
 - Presbyterian Women YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/PresbyterianWomen>
- The J&P Reading List
 - J&P Recommended Resources: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Resources-JP-Concerns-full-page.pdf> or Bookmarks at PW Store: PR 20206
- The Racial Equity Committee Resource list and workshop resource
 - Racial Equity Recommended Resources: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/REC-RESOURCE-RECOMMENDATIONS-2020.pdf> or Bookmarks at PW Store: PWR20300 or <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/product/racial-equity-resources-bookmark/>

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- And the J& P Calendar
 - J&P Calendar: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/2021-justice-and-peace-calendar/> or Bookmarks at PW Store - PWR20204

Joy shared information on the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women Presbyterian Women attained consultant status in July 2019. Magdalene Lewis is the volunteer coordinator for PW. With this status, Presbyterian Women can invite 20 women to participate as official delegates. Presbyterian Women partner with Ecumenical Women and the PCUSA UN office for this annual meeting.

All are invited to attend parallel events each year during the meeting.

- <https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw>.
- <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/un/>

Information to apply to be an official delegate to UN/CSW is available on the PW website in late September each year.

Joy shared that Presbyterian women are invited to join Ecumenical women and the World Council of Churches in recognizing Thursday's in Black to end violence.

- Ecumenical Women: <https://www.ecumenicalwomenun.org/> To take the Thursdays in Black Pledge, click on Thursdays in Black near the top of the page.
- World Council of Churches, Thursdays in Black Information: <https://www.oikoumene.org/what-we-do/thursdays-in-black>

Joy shared the Ecumenical Advocacies 2021 will be April 18-21 viz Zoom. There is still time to sign up to participate virtually in the event. The cost is \$35.00

- <https://advocacydays.org/>

Joy concluded her presentation by reminding Presbyterian women to support the work of PW by donating individually or through circles and PW groups to the PW Annual Fund.

- [PW Annual Fund](#)

The Gathering was adjourned at 11:00am with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jorgenson
Clerk pro tem