

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN THE PRESBYTERY OF UTAH SPRING GATHERING  
APRIL 13 & 14, 2018  
JAPANESE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
268 WEST 100 SOUTH, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH  
“Building Bridges of Understanding”**

The Spring Gathering began on Friday, April 13, 2018 with Registration by Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz, Capitol Networker, Cottonwood Presbyterian Church and Sharon Cavagnolo, Cottonwood Presbyterian Church, Murray, Utah. This time also allowed for fellowship, viewing display tables and participating in the book sale.

We were welcomed by Pastor of the Japanese Church of Christ, Rev. Brad Kramer who offered the blessing before a delicious dinner prepared by Community of Grace Presbyterian Church, Sandy and American Fork Community Presbyterian Church, American Fork, Utah.

Following dinner, Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz, Cottonwood Presbyterian, Sarah Yates, Community Presbyterian Church, Brigham City and Aloha Whitney, Trinity Presbyterian, Ogden presented a skit portraying the Churchwide Gathering theme “Arise, Shine, Your Light Has Come”.

Moderator, Lynn Erickson, Community of Grace, thanked Community of Grace and American Fork for a delicious dinner and we then moved over to the Sanctuary. Lynn then lit the Christ Candle signifying Christ’s presence with us. She gave the Devotion titled “Unity” by Erin Davis. Erin Davis is an author, blogger and speaker. She is the Women’s Ministry Director and lives on a small farm in the Midwest. Lynn related 5 reasons why unity is worth fighting for: 1) Jesus passionately prayed for unity, 2) Unity is fragile, handle with care, 3) Unity is an evangelism tool, 4) Unity is a commandment, 5) Unity protects us. Lynn cited passages of Scripture for each unity. The devotion was closed in prayer.

First Time Attendees for Friday were acknowledged on Friday evening by Mary Hargis, North Networker, 1st Presbyterian, Ogden as Sylvia Sharman, American Fork Community Church. The hostesses from the Japanese Church of Christ first timers were also acknowledged: Betty Morishita, Karla Paige, Miki Harada, Stephanie Mori-Nakao.

Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz recognized on the Coordinating Team, Justice, Peace and Mission, Sara Yates.

Moderator, Lynn Erickson introduced our keynote speaker, our 2017 Global Exchange to Indonesia: “Building Bridges of Understanding”, Rev. Nancy Holve, Pastoral Resource, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Richfield, Utah participant. Rev. Nancy modeled her Indonesia wardrobe and showed us how to tie fabrics that were the traditional clothing worn by the Indonesian women. A slide show was presented showing where she traveled in Indonesia, a nation of islands. They encountered a typhoon and a volcanic eruption! Jakarta, the capitol is the most congested city in the world. 5% of the population are Presbyterian with the predominant population Muslim – all religions are under one God. Women are still at risk in worship and are helped at the Women’s Empowerment Center. There are mission workers where Muslim and Christian women come together. Nancy related that Indonesia has many gods – cultures are European, Dutch and Indonesian. The program ended at 8:55 PM and Lynn

reminded everyone of our homework (read over Minutes and Bylaw changes) that were in the Newsletter. The Christ Candle was extinguished by Moderator Lynn and the Gathering adjourned until Saturday morning.

Registration began at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning, April 14<sup>th</sup>. A time for display tables and book sale as well as a display of Indonesian articles brought back from Indonesia by Rev. Nancy Holve were available.

We gathered in the Sanctuary where we were led in songs by Loyda Kyremes, Wasatch Presbyterian Church and accompaniment by Sylvia Sharman, American Fork Community Presbyterian Church. Marilynn Collins, First Trinity, Presbyterian, Ogden lit the Christ Candle and led us in a devotion on Oprah Winfrey's thoughts on relationship among and between souls, and the call to correctedness from Oprah's book "The Wisdom of Sundays". This spoke of community and a common thread and if thread is broken and not corrected the community or unity is broken down.

Lynn Erickson, Moderator then acknowledged Saturday First Timer, Betty Murakami, Japanese Christian Church, Salt Lake City, Utah. Lynn presided over the Business Meeting. The Secretary's Report, Pauline Forster, Mt. Olympus Presbyterian Church was presented. A motion was made, seconded and the minutes were accepted as corrected. Mary VanScoyk presented the Treasurer's Report – during a discussion of the 2017 Budget Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz interjected for the individual PW groups not to forget the Synod giving for supporting mission when pledging. A motion was made, seconded and the 2017 Budget was accepted as presented. The 2018 Proposed Budget was presented. A motion was made, seconded and accepted as proposed.

Lynn presented the change in the Bylaws as combining Missions with Peace and Justice, since Together In-Service has been discontinued. A motion was made, seconded to accept the proposed change as presented. The motion carried.

Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz recognized those going off the Coordinating Team Board – Lynn Erickson, Moderator, served 4 ½ years, Mary VanScoyk, Treasurer, almost 10 years, Marilynn Collins, Mission Leader, Together-In-Service, Sara Yates, Peace and Justice, Linda Olson, Horizons, each was presented with a gift of appreciation.

Three people were recognized who filled 1 year terms – Mary Hargis, North Networker, Jan Lee Vondette, Website, Carol Day, Vice Moderator.

The new slate of Officers were presented and elected as follows:

Carol Day – Moderator  
open-Vice Moderator  
Pauline Forster – Secretary  
Lynn Erickson – Treasurer  
Sally Hoffelmeyer-Katz – Capitol Networker/Search  
Mary Hargis – North Networker/Search  
Loreen Hall – South/Central Networker/Search  
Karen Durrant – Newsletter/Publication Editor  
Rev. Nancy Holve – Pastoral Resources  
Jane Lee Vondette – Website Administrator  
Linda Olson – Missions, Peace, Justice

## **Eva Edwards– Horizons Magazine**

**Lynn related information on the Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, KY, August 2 – 5, 2018. Information on scholarship applications available on display table. Others who have attended Churchwide Gatherings in the past spoke regarding their experiences. Rev. Nancy Holve shared more of her Indonesian clothing and showed Richfield's Valley Community Presbyterian Church's new cookbook on sale for \$12.00 or two for \$20.00.**

**??Marilynn Collings discussed not to send any more articles to IMC, Geneva. A mission opportunity for USA will be upper New York state. This meets every three years – topic “Standing on the shoulders of empowered women” – applications are due August 15, 2018 for this July 12-22, 2019 mission experience. The Synod Gathering will be August 11, 2019 in Sheridan, Wyoming – topic “And Yet She Persists” – held in the Sheridan Hotel, can be a family vacation as well. Marilynn mentioned the Rocky Mountain Synod consists of all of Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Utah – there will be important topics discussed regarding the Church and PW shrinking, downsizing publications staff which concerns the Horizon Magazine and Bible Study, which is free with the Horizon subscription. Checks for Churchwide Gathering are to be made out to PW Presbytery of Utah – gift cards to be purchased for \$10.00 each, to be presented at the Churchwide Gathering. Upcoming events were mentioned – PW Women's Retreat in Park City, April 28-29 \$115.00 shared room or \$145.00 personal room, contact 1st Presbyterian Church of Salt Lake City. A motion was made to close Business Meeting, seconded and meeting was adjourned. Snacks were provided by First Presbyterian Church of Ogden.**

**We resumed in the Sanctuary as Moderator, Lynn Erickson introduced our speaker, Heidi Herrick who is working on her PhD “Refugee Resilience and Transformation”. Heidi works at Spice Kitchen incubator a program of the International Rescue Committee. Their goal is to find a home and get them settled. She noted that 65.6 million people are displaced. Some cannot return to their homeland due to persecution. You can find the Spice Kitchen at local Salt Lake City farmer's markets. The Spice Kitchen is located at 2180S – 300 W. <https://spicekitchenincubator.org/> An honorarium will be issued to International Rescue Committee.**

**Marilynn Collins, Moderator PW Synod, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Ogden, Utah then led a workshop titled Sacred Spaces. Building bridges of understanding to victims of sexual and gender based violence. Violence against others has been declared a public health problem – we need to speak up, especially in residences – be an advocate. She gave us some practical ways to help an abused person – always inform police. We then chose a partner and took turns role playing, listening to each other as we shared our or a friends story of abuse. This was a rewarding exercise. Marilynn is willing to present this program to our groups. We closed with reading “Prayer for Thursdays in Black”.**

**Lynn Erickson adjourned us at 12:30 PM for lunch and Rev. Nancy Holve gave the blessing. Lunch was served and prepared by Japanese Christian Church and a monetary donation by Mt. Olympus Presbyterian Church.**

**At 12:30 we gathered in the Sanctuary for Worship led by Rev. Nancy Holve, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Richfield, Utah on “Sharing in Community – Indonesia: Reflections Thus Far”. Piano accompaniment was**

**Sylvia Sharman, American Fork Community Presbyterian Church. Scriptures were Leviticus 19:33-34, Romans 1:11-12 and 1Corinthians 12:12-27 which were read by some in the Congregation. Rev. Holve stressed that no matter our race or color we are all children of God, aliens in a land – hospitality is important. This was compared to Paul’s longing to be with his Christian followers. There is hope of peace and justice – we are indeed “one body” – working in this together.**

**New and returning officers were installed during the Worship Service and those who were to attend the Churchwide Gathering were commissioned by Mary Van Scoyk, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Ogden. Worship was closed with Communion served by American Fork and Mt. Olympus Presbyterian Church.**

**The Christ Candle was extinguished and we concluded our Worship Service and our Spring Gathering at the Japanese Christian Church.**

**Special Offering – Churchwide Gathering Gift Cards    \$  
Least Coin Offering  
Cents-Ability Offering  
Martinpur Book Sale**

**There were 42 people in attendance**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Pauline Forster  
Secretary**