

To: Presbytery of Riverside
From: Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Riverside
Respectfully submitted by Debbie Law, Moderator
Subject: August 2018 Presbytery Report

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God has said, *“Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you.”*
-Hebrews 13:5

As Presbyterian Women begin the 2018-2019 year, we nurture our faith through the Horizons Bible Study, *“God’s Promise: I Am With You”*, by Amy Poling Sutherlun. The Bible Study takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God’s promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God’s presence but rather on God’s actual articulation of God’s promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.

Representation from the Presbytery of Riverside: *“Arise, Shine, Your Light Has Come!”* Seven Presbyterian Women from the PWC’s of Beaumont, Hemet, Redlands First, Redlands Community and San Bernardino attended the 2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women from August 2-5 in Louisville, Kentucky. The 2018 Churchwide Gathering gave us days of worship, plenary and fellowship, educational opportunities and diverse speakers, history and celebrations of 30 years of PW. As a national organization of the PCUSA, Presbyterian Women celebrates 30 years of faithful service and a future of cultivating Presbyterian Women.

Presbyterian Women in the Congregations:

Beaumont First Presbyterian Church: PWC finished their Vacation Bible School. They report a well-attended and successful session. On October 6th, PW Beaumont will host our PWP Fall Gathering, featuring the Presbyterian 2018 International Peacemaker, Roceni Bakian.

Hemet First Presbyterian Church: PWC and the HFPC Men’s Group will have a Fall Sale on November 17th and 18th. The Sale event will also offer lunch hot dogs and hamburgers grilled in the Church court yard.

San Bernardino First Presbyterian Church: PWC is preparing for their Luncheon and Fall Fashion Show on November 3, 2018. PWC will host the annual Tank Offering within each of their Circles.

Victoria Presbyterian Church: The members are exploring the process of starting PW.

We reaffirm our commitment to the Purpose of Presbyterian Women and our covenantal relationships to building an inclusive caring community that strengthens the PCUSA. Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Riverside will join our churchwide Sisters in *Cultivating Presbyterian Women* through the Mission Pledge, PW’s Annual Fund. Through our gifts to the Mission Pledge, we support the mission of the PCUSA, Presbyterian Women, Inc. and Presbyterian Women in the Synod, Presbyteries and Congregations.

A Season of Peace: Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Riverside has the privilege of hosting Roceni Bakian, 2018 Presbyterian International Peacemaker from the Philippines to our Fall Gathering. Rev. Bakian will be our guest speaker and is active in her community as a Justice Peace Advocate. She also serves as the vice chairperson of RECCORD, a regional, ecumenically-based fellowship of churches called to build communities of justice and peace for the proclamation of good news and upholding the integrity of God’s creation. As a peacemaker, she promotes the fullness of life for individuals, families and communities by preventing human trafficking. During the Gathering, we will assemble educational kits for Rev. Bakian to gift to students in the Philippines. Thank you to our PWC’s for the school supplies! Please join PW in welcoming International Peacemaker Roceni Bakian at Beaumont First Presbyterian Church at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 13, 2018. Registration is \$10.00 with lunch included. Please see registration flyer.

PWP Coordinating Team 2015 – 2018

Debbie Law (Moderator, FPCSB); Nancy Richmond (Vice Moderator, Victoria); Carol Valentine (Secretary, FPCSB); Lou Jolliff (Treasurer, HemetFP); Grace Baldwin (Search, RedlandsFP); Judy Strahan (Mission, HemetFP); Alice Munde (Racial/Ethnic, RedlandsFP); Kelsey Law (Hunger, FPCSB); Nancy Horstmann (Justice/Peace, FPCSB); Judy Strahan (Newsletter, Hemet)