



Presbyterian Women of the Yellowstone

April 30, 2013

As is our practice, PW held the Business Meeting during the Spring Gathering, April 13th and 14th 2013: We discussed and approved changes in bylaws* in order to do planning meetings by teleconference. We approved the goals and budget for 2013 and installed new officers. Merry Lee Hooks will be the new moderator, Suzanne Bratsky, vice moderator, Sue Gibb West cluster Moderator, Hazel Walter as East cluster moderator.*please see attached minutes

Suzanne Bratsky and Jody McDevitt were honored with life membership awards as both have given unselfishly of their time and talent toward the purpose of PW. Janet Guptill and Joan Cunningham wrote of 38 years of service by Suzanne. (her oldest son was an infant at meetings.) Jody has made space for PW in many ways including speaking at most cluster meetings and gatherings. She spoke at this meeting, "Telling Our Story," through "Engaging" in the PC(USA) Evangelism Program. She used the story of Zacchaeus and transformative moments as a "winsome guide" to a person seeking to know Jesus Christ and we drew a tree to illustrate the roots of our faith while the trunk and branches were shown as personal spiritual growth.

Cindy Coad, PW Dillon presented "86 quilts in 60 days" and brought patterns, samples and stories of "Spreading God's Warmth" identify ministry for children with sweaters, quilts, dresses and next: Britches for Boys. This project was submitted as this Presbytery's "Together in Service" Project. *see minutes attached.

Aloha Whitney made two presentations, "Glimpses of India" and "The Violence of Human Trafficking" as a report about her participation in PW Global Exchange to India. She also spoke about the tragic disruptions AIDS causes among women and children in struggling families in India. Aloha is from Ogden, Utah and we are very grateful for her participation in both the Yellowstone and Glacier PW Gatherings.

The Rev. Carol Schallenberger led us in worship and communion. We envisioned people seated at the communion table who had influenced our participation in the Sacrament of Communion. She told a story about the people at her table to guide us in this very moving, personal sharing of the wine and the bread by intinction.

Merry Lee Hooks shared the tragic story of the death of her son-in-law and the reverberating consequences of violence. She linked this story to the prevalence of violence in our society and the responsibility of the church to name it as such and do something about it. *Please see, Gun Violence, Gospel Values, mobilizing in response to God's call. The advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy (ACSWP) Approved by the 219th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

Respectfully Submitted with attached minutes, Merry Lee Hooks, PW Moderator 2013-2015