



Presbyterian Women of the Yellowstone Presbytery

Summer fundraising is a necessity in small Montana towns. The population jumps dramatically with the influx of summer residents and tourists. Two main town events in Ennis, the Fly Fishing Festival and the Presbyterian Women's Bake Sale at the Art Festival bring in most of the annual budget by which the women fund local national and international interests. This picture is from the

Madison Valley Church Directory.

PW of the Yellowstone holds the Thank Offering Celebration in the fall. This offering helps fund projects in our communities or in the world and comes through the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women. The goal for this year's giving is \$900,000. PW of the Yellowstone Presbytery typically gives \$700 towards this effort. Look for the Thank Offering Poster on the PW bulletin board in your church.

We are looking forward to the Presbyterian Women's USA mission experience to visit Cameron House while in the San Francisco Bay Area in September 2016. "Out of darkness.... into the Light" (John 1:5) We will save money to send delegates from the Synod to understand the challenges faced by women and children in that area. Participants will focus on immigration, human trafficking, domestic violence and related issues and be available to speak at PW events. Last year the international mission experience took place in Haiti and if all goes well Theresa Varnado, synod delegate to Haiti, will visit to tell us about her experience for the PW Spring Gathering in 2016.

Finally, the 2015 September/ October "Horizons" has an excellent article titled "Presbyterian Women Astride the Divide" by Sarah Kennerly, reassuring me at least that, "The PW Purpose is the mission statement for the organization. If you are committed to what the purpose envisions, why should you disclaim the statement as an individual simply because your church leaves the PC(USA)? You can continue Presbyterian Women's work individually or with one of PW's many secular or faith-based partners." After all is said and done "Since 1888 Presbyterian Women have joyfully expressed gratitude for God's blessings by sharing their blessings with those in need at home as well as around the world."

Faithfully,
Merry Lee Hooks, PW Moderator