



## Presbyterian Women of Yellowstone Presbytery Report for 2018

### **PW Spring Gathering**

>Presbyterian Women from Yellowstone Presbytery gathered twice in Billings and in Bozeman for their Annual Spring Gathering on March 23 & 24, 2018. Our guest speaker was Kathy Lundberg from Sheridan, Wyo. who was the PW Rocky Mountain Synod delegate to the 2017 Global Exchange trip to Indonesia following the theme-“**Building Bridges of Understanding** “ ...so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith, both yours and mine” (Romans 1:12). She really engaged and challenged us. Most of Indonesia is not Christian but Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu. They all live together peaceably caring for each other. Her talk was inspiring and she presented many items for us to look at including the famous Indonesian puppets made of paper cut outs. The Global Exchange was hosted by the Protestant Church of Western Indonesia. The GPIB is known as a connectional church with more than 300 congregations cross the island country.

>New leaders were elected at the PW Spring Gatherings and they are: Moderator-Suzanne Bratsky; Secretary/Historian-Susan Gibb; Treasurer-Linda Best; East Cluster Leader-Cathy McLean; West Cluster Leader-Merry Lee Hooks.

>Merry Lee Hooks and Suzanne Bratsky asked that congregations invite us to come and give our PW-PCUSA Disaster Preparedness presentation for them.

>PW groups sat at round tables and shared ideas, posters, projects they are doing and how they meet together as Circles.

>Of course we had great food and the 2018 Budget and Treasurer’s report was presented.

### **PW Churchwide Gathering**

This past August, eight women from Yellowstone Presbytery attended the PW Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, KY. See the picture enclosed. Those attending were: CRE Veva Larson and Margaret Lombardi, Wise River; Rev. Cathy McLean, Forsyth; Biff Hogue, Billings; and Donna Beck, Sally Broughton, Susan Gibb, Suzanne Bratsky from Bozeman. Churchwide Gathering was attended by 1,600+

women and men from around the world. It is a great experience of seeing old and new friends, attending rich worship services, and learning about the new *2018 Horizon's Bible Study*. We learned from dynamic preachers/teachers about living and working Mission and seeing it through New Eyes, working for Justice and Peace, celebrating our Beloved Community by installing new Leaders, hearing Churchwide young Women and Building an Inclusive Community for all and we rose together to *ARISE, SHINE; FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME!*

This gathering was also celebrating the 30th year of the formation of PW. In 1988 the northern women of the Presbyterian Church (UPW) and the southern women of the Presbyterian Church (Women of the Church) joined together as Presbyterian Women (PW). Entwined throughout the Gathering we enjoyed "Glimpses in Time Video" about our past 30 years.

Joy,

Suzanne Bratsky, Moderator PW of Yellowstone Presbytery



Left to Right: Rev. Cathy McLean, Biff Hogue, Suzanne Bratsky, Donna Beck, Sally Broughton, Susan Gibb, Veva Larson, Margaret Lombardi