

# 2009 CHURCHWIDE GATHERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY • JULY 11-15, 2009



“Then Joshua said to the people, “Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.””

—*Joshua 3:5*

2009 Churchwide Gathering Promotional Packet

CWG-09-032



Produced in 2008 by Presbyterian Women, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

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Music from the *Call to the Gathering* DVD: "Open My Eyes" from the CD *Praise and Worship with Electric Bass* produced and performed by Paul Bennett. Used by permission.

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\*Order additional gathering fliers (CWG-09-031) and posters (CWG-09-030) from PDS, 800/524-2612.

- ◆ **Reconnect with friends at your synod luncheon.**
- ◆ **Support mission with “wonder-filled” gift cards for disaster assistance and children.**
- ◆ **Enroll children and youth in programs for attendees ages six months to 18 years.**
- ◆ **Carry your program book in a tote bag from Thailand.**
- ◆ **Enjoy four breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners that are included in your registration fee.**
- ◆ **Share your PW’s favorite mission project through a poster.**

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF THE GATHERING PLANNING TEAM



Dear PW leaders,

March 2008

The Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women is a time to nurture our faith and to be in community with Christian women from across the country and around the world. It is a time to learn about mission opportunities and justice and peace issues; to participate in Bible study and to learn leadership skills. It is a time to share our faith in song and prayer and to have fun! It is a time to enjoy and explore the Louisville area. That's why . . .

. . . . we are counting on you!

Here's how to promote the 2009 Churchwide Gathering (CWG) of Presbyterian Women. Promote the CWG in your meetings, your newsletters, your emails and your conversations! Promote it in the local churches, even, and especially where there is no formal PW organization or women's group.

One of the best ways to promote the CWG is to encourage women to spread the word about it to their friends and relatives. (Thirty percent of women reported on the 2006 evaluation form that they heard about the Gathering from friends or relatives!) Don't let women—and men—in your area miss out on a wonderful Gathering just because they didn't know about it!

What are your special memories of Churchwide Gatherings? Hearing the voices of more than 3,000 women raised in song? A presentation in plenary? A conversation with a new friend or Global Partner? The message of a workshop leader? A time alone in the spirituality center? Talk about your memories; share your enthusiasm!

Copies may be made of information, ideas and resources in this packet and distributed to PWC moderators, pastors, Christian educators, seminary students—anyone who may be interested. Information can also be found on the CWG Web pages, [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering).

The 2009 Churchwide Gathering is a time to celebrate the wonders of God!

Thank you in advance for your help in promoting the Gathering!

Lois Carter, Chair  
Gathering Planning Team

# 2009 CHURCHWIDE GATHERING FAQs

## What is the theme of the 2009 Churchwide Gathering?

The theme is “God Will Do Wonders Among You,” based on *Joshua 3:5*: “Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”

## When is the 2009 Churchwide Gathering?

The Gathering begins with dinner on Saturday, July 11, 2009, and concludes after the morning plenary on Wednesday, July 15, 2009.

## Where will this Gathering be held?

It will be held at the Kentucky International Conventional Center in Louisville, Kentucky.

## How much will this Gathering cost?

Registration for the full event includes 10 meals, all programs, tote bag and program book. Early-bird registration (through May 15, 2009) is \$380. After that, registration will be \$430. Hotel, travel and other meals are additional.

## Is there a discount if I can only attend part of the Gathering?

Weekend (Saturday evening and Sunday) registration is \$150; one-day registration is \$140.

## I don't have much money, but would like to attend the Gathering. Can you help?

There is limited scholarship aid available for the cost of registration. Please contact your Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery moderator. Travel, hotel and some meals are on your own.

## Okay, you've given me the basics. What else can you tell me about the theme?

With the 2009–2010 *Horizons* Bible study focusing on *Joshua*, the theme reminds us that God continues to be at work in the world today, as well as in our individual lives. Come to the 2009 Churchwide Gathering to be encouraged about God's ongoing presence in your own life, in your church and in the world.

## Who else will attend the Gathering?

This will be a community of more than 3,000 women (and a few men!) from around the country and the world; there will be representatives from 20 or more countries, in addition to the United States. Presbyterian Women will be joined by the National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen (NAPC).

## May I bring my child or spouse to the Gathering?

Yes! There will be programs for children and youth ages six months through 18 years. And of course, any adult is welcome to come to the Gathering; bring your spouse, your mother, your cousin, a neighbor or another member of your church. You might even plan your family vacation around the Gathering!

## What happens at the Gathering?

There are large-group (plenary) sessions, some presented in a worship setting. There are a variety of forums and workshops, inspiring speakers, wonderful music and lots of information to ponder. In your free time, wander through the Great Room to look at the various displays and purchase items to take home. In addition, the newly elected leaders of the PW Churchwide Coordinating Team, and the board of NAPC, are installed. On our final morning, we celebrate the Lord's Supper together.

## Where can I get more information?

The CWG Web pages, [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering), and via *Horizons* magazine.

## I'm ready to sign up! When can I register?

Registration will open January 15, 2009. Look for the registration form in your September/October 2008 issue of *Horizons*.

# GATHERING TIMELINE

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## 2008

<b>April</b>	Promote the Churchwide Gathering. Use ideas from “35 Ways to Promote the Gathering,” page 14.
<b>10 May</b>	Sixty weeks to the Gathering! Save \$17 each week and you will have enough to cover all costs to attend! <b>Note:</b> all breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners are included in the registration fee.
<b>1 August</b>	Deadline for submitting entries for the CWG theme song contest
<b>September</b>	Registration booklets and scholarship applications available. Read the first of a six-part series related to the Gathering in <i>Horizons</i> .
<b>October</b>	Promote the CWG at fall PWP Gatherings and PWC meetings. Begin to assemble information for your PW’s mission project poster.
<b>November</b>	Subscribe to <i>Horizons</i> if you haven’t already in order to receive the <i>Joshua</i> Bible study in March. (Take the study to the Gathering with you.)
<b>25 December</b>	Give a gift certificate for the Gathering to a friend or relative.

## 2009

<b>15 January</b>	Gathering registration opens.
<b>10 February</b>	Deadline for CWG scholarship applications
<b>March</b>	Read <i>Horizons</i> —learn about the Global Exchange to Eastern Europe and about some of the women who will be attending the Gathering.
<b>2 April</b>	One hundred days to the Gathering! Promote the CWG at spring PWP Gatherings and wherever you see Presbyterian women (and men!). Use the skit, make banners, etc.
<b>15 May</b>	Early bird registration ends, regular registration begins.
<b>1 June</b>	Deadline for sending mission posters to PW office
<b>June</b>	Name-tag mailing will be sent out with everything you need to know about the Gathering.  Purchase “wonder-filled” \$20 gift cards to bring to the Gathering for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.
<b>1 July</b>	It’s not too late to register for the Gathering!
<b>9–11 July</b>	Global Partners Orientation
<b>11 July</b>	Gathering begins with dinner.
<b>11–12 July</b>	PW Business Meeting, 11:30 AM–5 PM
<b>15 July</b>	Gathering ends at noon.

# MISSION PROJECTS TO CONSIDER BEFORE THE GATHERING

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## Allowing God to do wonders among us

### **Mission Poster Project: Celebrating 20 years in mission as PW**

Presbyterian women have always been involved in mission by sharing, nurturing and healing. God has done, is doing and will do wonders among us! The first organized Presbyterian women's group was the Women's General Missionary Society, formed in 1875 to support missionaries in the field. When PW was formed in 1988, it inherited the legacies of strong mission programs from United Presbyterian Women (UPCUSA) and Women of the Church (PCUS).

Let's celebrate 20 years as PW in mission. Here's how: use an 8½" by 11" or a 13" by 13" scrapbook page, piece of cardstock or poster board to tell the story of a successful mission project your PW has been involved with sometime in the last 20 years, or is involved in now. Write a brief description, add photos, and share how God has been working through your group to help others!

Mail your poster to: Patricia Longfellow, PW Program Assistant, 100 Witherspoon St., Louisville, KY 40402-1396

**Posters will be displayed at the 2009 Churchwide Gathering and may be picked up and taken home after the Tuesday evening plenary session. They will not be mailed back to you.**

### **Wonder-filled gift cards: rebuilding homes, reassuring children, restoring hope**

Looking for a way to make a difference with a new mission project? Here's a suggestion for a gift that's easy to pack! Consider donating a prepaid gift card, to be collected at the Gathering.

PW will be donating the gift cards to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Bellewood Presbyterian Homes for Children. This direct and flexible use of spending power offers a way to provide what is needed quickly in times of emergency and for specific needs of individuals. Prayerfully inspire your circle, your friends and yourself to purchase \$20 gift cards from national retailers like Home Depot, Lowe's, Target, K-mart, and others, and bring them to the Gathering. The gift cards will be collected at registration and dedicated during a worship service at the Gathering. Your gifts will soon begin rebuilding homes, reassuring children and restoring hope.

Should you wish to give \$40 or more, please purchase additional gift cards in the amount of \$20 each.

Make a difference. Join us in this meaningful PW project. God *will* do wonders among us!

# GATHERING PROGRAM OPTIONS

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## **Morning Devotions**

You are invited to begin your day by joining others in morning devotions. Experience worship in a variety of ways.

## **The Spirituality Center**

The Spirituality Center offers a quiet place in which to experience different forms of prayer. There will be a labyrinth for walking prayer, resources for visual meditation, contemplative listening opportunities, a prayer wall and hands-on creative prayer activities.

## **Something New: Forums!**

After morning plenary sessions, attend a forum. The forum may provide time for talk-back with the plenary speaker, conversation on an emerging issue or meeting General Assembly staff.

## **Presbyterian Women Heritage Exhibit**

Visit the PW Heritage Exhibit and celebrate the legacy of Presbyterian Women. Learn about and enjoy the rich history of PW. Discover ways to use scrapbooking to enhance your program and record your history. Learn how to celebrate the history of PW in your congregation, your presbytery and your synod.

## **Workshop Opportunities**

Registrants will choose from many exciting workshops at the same time that they fill out the registration brochure. The workshops will reflect and expand on the Gathering theme, "God Will Do Wonders Among You," with emphasis on five areas: Bible study/spirituality/theology, mission, community, justice and peace, and leadership. Specific workshops will provide an opportunity for participants to hear Global Partners share their faith journeys and experiences. Other workshops will be designed for young adults and led by young women.

## **Afternoon Tours**

Visit mission sites and innovative ministries at churches in Louisville. Take a campus tour of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Tour the Presbyterian Center, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) national offices. Other possibilities include a visit to the United Crescent Ministries, the Children's Homes and other local attractions such as The Muhammad Ali Center, the Slugger Museum and Churchill Downs.

**Plenary 2009 will be a time for WONDERS**

Morning and evening plenary sessions will focus on the wonders of God.

**COME—**

celebrate the WONDERS of GOD’S GRACE and our HOPE in Christ through inspired preaching, Bible study and Holy Communion.

**COME—**

discover ways to respond to the WONDERS of CREATION and COMMUNITY with speakers who will enlighten us with their stories of overcoming challenges in nature and dealing with environmental concerns.

**COME—**

embrace God’s call to you through the WONDERS of MISSION OPPORTUNITIES for Presbyterian Women and hear about our Global Exchanges.

**COME—**

volunteer as a member of the WONDERFUL Gathering Choir or as an usher.

**COME—**

participate in celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Presbyterian Women.

**GOD HAS DONE WONDERS AMONG YOU;**

**GOD WILL DO WONDERS AMONG YOU!**

**COME—**

where Presbyterian women will be celebrating,

discovering,

embracing,

volunteering

and participating

**IN GOD’S WONDER-FILLED WORLD**

# THE GREAT ROOM

## A Great Place to Wander and Wonder

You're invited to spend your free time wandering through the wonders of God's world in the Great Room at the 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women. We're sure you'll find the Great Room a wonderfully inviting space for you to shop, visit, snack, rest, learn, wander . . . and more!

The Great Room will be home to some of your favorite people and places. There's a stage with afternoon entertainment—music, dancing and . . . you'll need to be there to see what else! There are places for conversation with Global Partners, plenary speakers, PW staff and PW just like you, from all around the country! If shopping's your "bag," you'll find plenty of opportunities to spend a little or a lot. Curious about PC(USA) or PW programs? Wander through the Great Room and you'll find plenty of information! Need a quick "pick-me-up" snack? You'll find it in the Great Room! Come—wander and wonder, in the Gathering Great Room!

### While you're wandering, be sure to look for:

PW and PC(USA) resource sales  
Playground and crafts  
PW Heritage Exhibit  
Global Garden  
The bandstand  
PW patio (CCT area)  
*Horizons*

Enough for Everyone  
Global Marketplace  
Email stations  
Living logo  
Exhibits  
Yummy snacks  
. . . and more!

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## **One-step Gathering registration**

The CWG registration brochure will be available September 1, 2008 from

- Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery moderators
- September/October 2008 issue of *Horizons*
- Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612; request item CWG-09-001
- [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering)

Registration opens January 15, 2009; you will be able to mail or fax your registration, or register online at [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering).

## **Registration fees**

Registration includes four breakfasts (Sunday through Wednesday), two lunches (Sunday and Monday), four dinners (Saturday through Tuesday), programming costs, workshops, tote bag and program book.

### **Early-bird registration (through May 15, 2009)**

Adult registration \$380

Children's registration (six months through 12 yrs) TBD

Youth in Mission registration (13–18 yrs) TBD

### **Registration (after May 15, 2009)**

Adult registration \$430

Children's registration (six months through 12 yrs) TBD

Youth in Mission registration (13–18 yrs) TBD

## **Weekend and daily fees**

Weekend registration (Saturday dinner through Sunday) \$150

Daily registration \$140

Weekend registration includes Saturday dinner and three meals on Sunday, programming costs, tote bag and program book.

Daily registration includes the meals provided that day (see "Registration fees" above), programming costs, tote bag and program book.

## **Gathering scholarships**

Limited gathering scholarships for the registration fee will be available. Scholarship applications are available from PWP moderators, online at [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering), or by calling 888/728-7228, ext. 8015, after September 1, 2008.

To be considered, applications must be postmarked by February 10, 2009.

# REGISTRATION

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## Workshops

The Gathering registration booklet includes a list of forums and workshops from which to choose.

## Housing

A separate housing registration form is included in the registration booklet for the following hotels:

**Hyatt Regency  
Louisville Marriott Downtown  
Galt House Hotel and Suites**

Prices range from \$125.00–\$130.00 (plus tax) per night per room; two–four guests per room. These hotels are connected to the Convention Center by a pedway. Attendees are responsible for making their own housing reservations and finding their own roommate(s).

## Cancellation policy

The deadline for requests for refunds is July 10, 2009. All requests must be in writing. Requests received on or before June 1, 2009 will receive the registration fee less \$30 for processing. After June 1, 2009, the cost of meals also will be deducted. Additional details will be in the registration booklet.

## Name tags

### (and an invitation to create your unique “identifier”!)

Registrants will receive an “official” Churchwide Gathering name tag. But don’t let that limit you and your group from finding a creative way to identify yourselves! Your group can sport a unique name tag, pin, button, hat, stole or other unique “identifier,” so you (and others) will never wonder who you are and who you represent!

## Synod Lunches

Synods may schedule a synod luncheon for Tuesday, July 14, 2009, from 11:30 AM–1:30 PM. What a great way to get together with all attendees from your synod! Synod PW moderators will receive details on setting up the get-togethers from the Gathering Hospitality Committee. Your Synod PW moderator will soon know the location and the way to make reservations for this lunch. Be sure to add this to your schedule!

**Note:** No meal is covered by the registration fee during this time. Use your synod or presbytery newsletters, clusters or email distribution list to share the excitement that this special meal is set aside just for your get-together. Each synod may publicize how to handle costs and reservations individually. Details for each synod will be listed in *Daily Horizons*, Issue 1.

## **Programs for children and youth (six months through 18 years)**

- Pre-registration is necessary. Use the Gathering registration booklet to indicate whether you are bringing a child. Register them and enclose the fee.
- Children will eat breakfast and dinner with their parent/guardian(s).
- All children will be housed with their parent/guardian(s) in their hotel room during the Gathering.
- Packets containing further information and medical forms will be sent **after** registration forms and fees are received.
- Registration fees will be listed in the CWG registration booklet.

## **WONDER-FUL Kids**

Children ages six months through five years old may participate in an onsite program in the Convention Center.

## **Kids Among Us**

Children ages six years through 12 years old may participate in an off-site day camp program during much of the day.

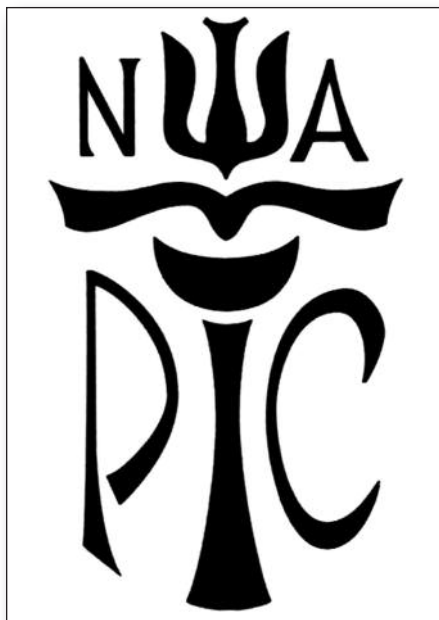
## **Youth in Mission**

Young people ages 13 through 18 may participate in the new and exciting Youth in Mission program, offered Saturday from 6:30 PM–9 PM, Sunday through Tuesday from 8:30 AM–9 PM daily, and Wednesday from 8:30 AM–11:30 AM. This will be an urban mission experience, reaching out to those in need in the Louisville community. Ministry opportunities may include service to people who are hungry, homeless, elderly, disabled and children at risk or in poverty.

For more information, contact Darci McKinnon, [darcimckinnon@gmail.com](mailto:darcimckinnon@gmail.com) or 252/637-3050.

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRESBYTERIAN CLERGYWOMEN (NAPC)

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The National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen (NAPC) is thrilled to partner with Presbyterian Women to plan, present and participate in the 2009 Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, Kentucky.

NAPC is an organization for clergywomen in the PC(USA). It has been in existence since November 1987, providing clergywomen with an opportunity to meet at least once every three years, and, through its newsletter, provides regular (about six times per year) updates about issues of significance to clergywomen, including denominational matters, information about people, theological discourse, and the like.

There is a nominal fee for membership (\$30 per year for active clergy, or \$55 for two years; and \$10 for retired or unemployed clergy and students).

Many clergywomen have been strongly supported in their sense of call, and in their service, by Presbyterian Women; many have regularly attended the Churchwide Gathering over the years. As NAPC looked at its own triennial events and the 2006 CWG, it made sense to ask PW to consider inviting NAPC to participate in and help plan the 2009 CWG.

NAPC brings its own considerable resources to the table, including the ability to arrange for clergywomen to be chaplains for the Gathering, and to encourage other clergywomen to make this their continuing education event for 2009. Three of NAPC's board members have been actively participating in the planning process, and several others have provided input by suggesting workshops, names of possible leadership, and so forth.

# THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN LOUISVILLE

## Hotel convention rates are good for three days before and after the Gathering!

### Fourth Street Live!

A variety of restaurants, all within walking distance of the Gathering hotels, including: Hard Rock Cafe; Sully's Restaurant and Saloon; Saddle Ridge; Red Star Tavern; The Pub; Maker's Mark Bourbon House and Lounge; TGI Friday's and a food court.

[www.4thstlive.com](http://www.4thstlive.com)

### Belle of Louisville and the Spirit of Jefferson

Riverboat cruises on the Ohio River

[www.belleoflouisville.org](http://www.belleoflouisville.org)

### Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory

Interactive exhibits on baseball and baseball bats. See how the official bats of major league baseball are made.

800 West Main Street, Louisville, KY 40202

[www.sluggermuseum.org](http://www.sluggermuseum.org)

### Louisville Slugger Field and Louisville Bats

Louisville Slugger Field is home to the Louisville Bats, the farm team for the Cincinnati Reds.

401 E. Main St., Louisville, KY 40202

[www.batsbaseball.com](http://www.batsbaseball.com)

### Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft

715 W. Main Street Louisville, KY 40202

[www.kentuckyarts.org](http://www.kentuckyarts.org)

### Frazier International History Museum

A collaboration with Britain's Royal Armouries

829 W. Main St., Louisville, KY 40202

[www.fraziermuseum.org](http://www.fraziermuseum.org)

### Kentucky Derby Museum

The museum, located next to Churchill Downs, features a 360-degree multimedia show, exhibits art, and includes a walking tour through Churchill Downs.

700 Central Avenue, Louisville, KY 40208

[www.derbymuseum.org](http://www.derbymuseum.org)

### Churchill Downs

The racetrack is home to the Kentucky Derby.

[www.churchilldowns.com](http://www.churchilldowns.com)

### Louisville Science Center & IMAX Theatre

727 W. Main Street, Louisville, KY 40202

[www.louisvillescience.org](http://www.louisvillescience.org)

### Glassworks

Offers glassblowing tours, classes, workshops and more.

815 W. Market Street, Louisville, KY 40202

[www.louisvilleglassworks.com](http://www.louisvilleglassworks.com)

### Six Flags Kentucky Kingdom

Amusement park for the whole family

[www.sixflags.com/kentuckykingdom](http://www.sixflags.com/kentuckykingdom)

### Louisville Zoo

More than 1,300 animals from all over the world, interactive Lorikeet Landing and the newly opened Glacier Run Splash Park

1100 Trevilian Way, Louisville, KY 40233

[www.louisvillezoo.org](http://www.louisvillezoo.org)

### Muhammad Ali Center

Exhibits pay tribute to the boxing legend and Louisville native

144 N. Sixth Street, Louisville, KY 40202

[www.alicenter.org](http://www.alicenter.org)

### Speed Art Museum

Collections of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish painting, 18th-century French art, Renaissance and Baroque tapestries, and contemporary American painting and sculpture.

2035 S. Third Street, Louisville, KY 40208

[www.speedmuseum.org](http://www.speedmuseum.org)

### Golf courses

Louisville has nine public golf courses.

Metro Parks Golf Office, P.O. Box 37280  
Louisville, KY 40233.

[www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks)

### The Jazz Factory

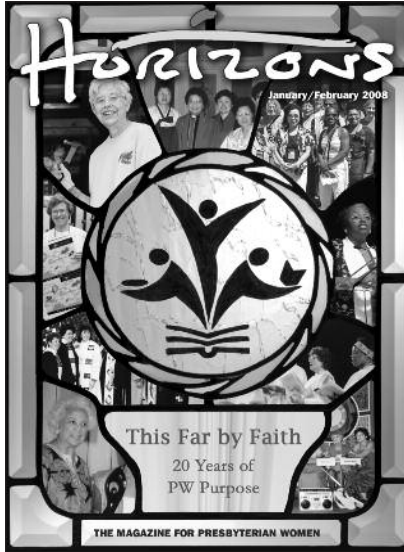
Louisville's premier venue for live jazz.

815 W. Market St., Louisville, KY 40202

[www.jazzfactory.us](http://www.jazzfactory.us)

For more suggestions, see [www.gotolouisville.com](http://www.gotolouisville.com)

## 35 WAYS TO PROMOTE THE GATHERING



- 1. Enlist the help of pastors, church leaders and church educators** to get the word out. Ask them to mention the Gathering during one-on-one conversations and to encourage attendance. Give them copies of promotional material and make sure they know to send people to you (or other knowledgeable leaders) for more details.
- 2. Ask your presbytery executive to encourage participation** through announcements at presbytery meetings, at events or in newsletters. Make sure your presbytery office staff has promotional materials.
- 3. Encourage your pastor and other clergy to use study leave time and money for this pastoral development opportunity.** Offer scholarship aid. Let her or him know that the National Association of Presbyterian Clergymen will be meeting at the Gathering (workshops will be provided by and for them).
- 4. Place articles, inserts or announcements** in the church bulletins, newsletters and on the church, presbytery and synod Web sites. See page 19 for a Gathering announcement that you may copy, or create your own with the clip art on the enclosed Art Reproduction Sheet (also available on Gathering Web pages).
- 5. Ask for time to make an announcement from the pulpit.** See page 19 for an announcement you can tailor to your own circumstance. Be sure to recruit the person best suited for this assignment—someone enthusiastic who is comfortable speaking publicly.
- 6. Discuss the event from your own personal observations and experiences.** What are your special memories of Churchwide Gatherings? Hearing the voices of more than 3,000 women raised in song? A presentation in Plenary? A conversation with a new friend or a Global Partner? The message of a workshop leader? Time alone in the Spirituality Center? Talk about these memories. Encourage the women to talk with others who attended. Share your enthusiasm!
- 7. Use personal contact.** Handwritten notes, individual email messages, cards with personal messages and telephone calls can be incredibly important to your promotional success. Thirty percent of the women who completed the evaluation form in 2006 indicated that they heard about the Gathering from a friend or relative! Homebound members of your group or church can be especially helpful with a mail and telephone ministry. Enlist help and create a plan. Follow up your personal notes or cards with phone calls, and make an effort during your promotional campaign to extend this type of personal invitation to every woman in your church, remembering the younger and newer members. See page 19 for a sample letter.
- 8. Send an invitation card to a friend.** Use the card in this packet or make your own cards using graphics from the Gathering Web pages.
- 9. Provide fliers** with Gathering information at meetings, on info racks and wherever people get together. Copy the enclosed flier.

## 35 WAYS TO PROMOTE THE GATHERING

10. **Create wrappers with the Gathering logo to go around soup or coffee cans.** Give them to your friends to encourage them to save for the Gathering. Get the logo from the Art Reproduction Sheet or the Gathering Web pages.
11. **Place reminder fliers with registration forms on cars** in the parking lot either before or after meetings and church services.
12. **Use the sidewalk!** Line it with colorful balloons and signs or banners. Use chalk or washable paints and put a message on the blocks of your sidewalk.
13. **Ask your best banner or quilt makers to make a cloth banner or quilt** to hang in your sanctuary or meeting rooms. Enlarge the Gathering logo to use as a pattern. Find the logo at [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering).
14. **Create bulletin boards and displays.** Use photos and mementos from other Gatherings. Include articles and photos from *Horizons* magazine. Make them colorful and eye-catching. Order additional posters (CWG-09-030) from PDS, 800/524-2612.
15. **Place the photos of persons** who have already registered for the Gathering on your bulletin board or display. Seeing the photos of others may help to encourage people who are still thinking about whether or not to register. Create ways of showing and reporting your progress as you work to register Gathering participants.
16. **Make placemats** with the Gathering logo and information about the Gathering for church or PW meals.
17. **Order magnets** with the logo to distribute at PW gatherings (you will be invoiced for the cost of shipping). To order (50 maximum), contact Carissa Herold ([carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org); 888/728-7228, ext. 5322) or Jung Ju Winner ([jung.winner@pcusa.org](mailto:jung.winner@pcusa.org); 888/728-7228, ext. 5389).
18. **Perform a skit** to advertise the Gathering (see page 20 or make up your own) at PW, church or presbytery meetings.
19. **Create a promotional message in the style of the Burma Shave signs from the 1940s and 1950s.** Start in the parking lot and line the sidewalk to your meeting room door with phrases.

Example:

Sign one:	God	Sign six:	Tomorrow!
Sign two:	Will Do	Sign seven:	Forever!
Sign three:	Wonders	Sign eight:	Churchwide Gathering
Sign four:	Among You	Sign nine:	of Presbyterian Women!
Sign five:	Today!	Sign ten:	July 11–15, 2009:
		Sign eleven:	Louisville, Kentucky

## 35 WAYS TO PROMOTE THE GATHERING

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- 20. Show women that the registration fee is really a bargain.** Participants will enjoy four continental breakfasts, three lunches and four dinners, in addition to receiving a tote bag and program book. They will have the opportunity to attend eight plenary sessions/worship services and at least six forums, workshops or tours. They will have access to Great Room exhibits, shopping, entertainment and learning activities. They can visit the Spirituality Center, bookstore and much more! Finally, they will have the opportunity to experience the wonder of community with women from across the country and around the world. Not just a bargain, but priceless!
- 21. Promote Louisville as a place to explore and enjoy.** Talk about things to see and do in Louisville before and after the Gathering. Remind women that convention rates are good three days before and after the Gathering. See page 13 for information or visit [www.gotolouisville.com](http://www.gotolouisville.com).
- 22. Offer to take a friend to your synod lunch.** Do you have a regular lunch friend at home? Invite her to the Gathering, and take her to your synod lunch! Or use the synod lunch to begin a new tradition of lunch meetings with PW from your congregation, presbytery or synod. Check with your PW synod or presbytery moderator for details on your synod's lunch.
- 23. Give the gift of the Gathering.** Use the gift certificate template from the Art Reproduction Sheet at the back of this packet to create a Gathering gift certificate for a friend, sister, daughter, mother or grandmother. Fill in the gift certificate amount for how much you will contribute to her Gathering expenses, and attach your personal check for that amount. Give her this gift certificate as a birthday, Christmas or just-because present.
- 24. Write a news release for your local news media,** using some of the promotional items in this kit, or articles from *Horizons* as a beginning point. Be sure to add a local angle to your story by mentioning persons from your church who are serving as organizers of your promotional efforts. And, as your efforts draw to a close, you'll also want a news release with a listing of the names of persons from your church who will be attending the Gathering. (Remember: secular media will want names and a local angle before they will consider using your news release.) Send your releases to all of the newspapers, cable television companies, small radio stations and other likely outlets in your community.
- 25. Ask for a meeting with your local newspaper's religion editor or the cable talk show host.** Talk about the Gathering and inquire about having them cover your group's local participation in it.
- 26. Get connected!** PW is about connection and the Gathering is the celebration of this connection. Encourage your circles to subscribe to *Horizons* magazine, the magazine for and about Presbyterian Women. A one-year subscription is \$18.00. Call 800/524-2612 to subscribe.
- 27. Read the six-part series in *Horizons*,** beginning with the September/October 2008 issue, and leading up to the Gathering, that offers scriptural interpretations of the Gathering theme; information concerning speakers, events and the many other opportunities for growth at the Gathering; promotional ideas and more.

## 35 WAYS TO PROMOTE THE GATHERING

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28. **Look for the Gathering registration booklet** in the September/October 2008 issue of *Horizons*. Copy the booklet or order more for women in your congregation, presbytery and synod who may be interested in the Gathering.
29. **Generate enthusiasm** and provide the most up-to-date Gathering information by posting the most recent Gathering-themed *Horizons* pages on the church bulletin board.
30. **Read about the 2008 U.S.A. Mission Experience** in the September/October 2008 issue of *Horizons*.
31. **Look in the March/April 2009 issue of *Horizons* for Global Exchange news** from the participants—interviews, personal accounts and photos from the trip. Use articles about the Global Exchange as discussion points in your circles or coordinating team meetings.
32. **Meet the nominees to the Churchwide Coordinating Team** (January/February 2009 issue). These women will be installed at the Gathering. Get to know them!
33. **Remember the 2006 Gathering** with the September/October 2006 issue of *Horizons*. Order an encore issue from Presbyterian Distribution Service by calling 800/524-2612 and ordering HZN-06-240 (cost is \$4 plus shipping). This issue contains wonderful photos, stories and a recap of the last Gathering. Use them to generate enthusiasm and interest.
34. **Encourage women to visit PW's Web pages**
  - [www.pcusa.org/pwggathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwggathering) for registration information and forms, scholarship forms, travel tips, plenary details and more! Dates, times and locations of all the goings-on of the 2009 Churchwide Gathering will be added as details are finalized.
  - [www.pcusa.org/pw](http://www.pcusa.org/pw) for information about the countries, events and people Presbyterian Women encounter during the April 2008 U.S.A. Mission Experience at the U.S./Mexico border and the September 2008 Global Exchange to Eastern Europe.
  - [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons) for information about *Horizons* magazine, including how to subscribe.
35. **Wear a Gathering T-shirt.** Use the clothes on your back to promote the Gathering! The 2009 Churchwide Gathering T-shirts are now available. Shirts have a CWG logo in brilliant color on the left front pocket area. The shirts are sweat-free, which means they're made by manufacturers and contractors who abide by labor standards set forth in the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labor Organization. The sweat-free logo appears on the sleeve. Order from Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612; \$12 each plus shipping and handling (10% of order, \$4.50 minimum, \$65.00 maximum).

## GATHERING T-SHIRTS



### BLACK T-SHIRTS

Small	CWG-09-113
Medium	CWG-09-114
Large	CWG-09-115
XL	CWG-09-116
2XL	CWG-09-117
3XL	CWG-09-118



### WHITE T-SHIRTS

Small	CWG-09-119
Medium	CWG-09-120
Large	CWG-09-121
XL	CWG-09-122
2XL	CWG-09-123
3XL	CWG-09-124

To order, call Presbyterian Distribution Service at 800/524-2612; \$12 each plus shipping and handling (10% of order, \$4.50 minimum, \$60 maximum).

- ◆ **Reconnect with friends at your synod luncheon.**
- ◆ **Support mission with “wonder-filled” gift cards for disaster assistance and children.**
- ◆ **Enroll children and youth in programs for attendees ages six months to 18 years.**
- ◆ **Carry your program book in a tote bag from Thailand.**
- ◆ **Enjoy four breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners that are included in your registration fee.**
- ◆ **Share your PW’s favorite mission project through a poster.**

# LETTER TO SEND TO FRIENDS, RELATIVES AND WOMEN IN YOUR CONGREGATION

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Dear Friend:

You are invited to join thousands of women, and a few men, at the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Louisville, Kentucky, July 11–15, 2009. The theme will be "God Will Do Wonders Among You."

The Gathering is a time to nurture our faith and to be in community with Christian women from across the country and around the world. It is a time to learn about mission opportunities and justice and peace issues; to participate in Bible study and to learn leadership skills. It is a time to worship together, to share our faith in song and prayer and to have fun! It is a time to explore and enjoy the Louisville, Kentucky area, and visit the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) offices.

The 2009 Churchwide Gathering is also a time to celebrate 20 years of being Presbyterian Women, and to celebrate our connections with women clergy as the National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen meets with us.

It is a time to celebrate the wonders of God among us!

Register today. To find out more (offer a contact person here).

I hope you can join us!

Grace and Peace,

## ANNOUNCEMENTS TO SPEAK AND PRINT

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God Will Do Wonders Among You! Yes, God does wonders among us every day! Next summer in Louisville, Kentucky, Presbyterian Women will gather from near and far to explore the ways we see God working among us all the time. Dynamic speakers, inspiring worship and Bible study, and workshops covering mission, leadership, personal spiritual growth and more will nurture and challenge PW July 11–15, 2009. Meet partners from around the world! Visit mission sites in Louisville! Gather with friends new and old for fellowship and growth! Visit [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering) for details and registration forms or contact [list a PW contact in the congregation, presbytery or synod] for more information. Join us!

*See the art reproduction sheet in this packet or visit the Gathering Web pages ([www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering)) for clipart you can use to enhance your printed announcements.*

*This can be adapted for a pulpit announcement, too. End with: Want to know more? Just ask me about it after worship and I'll be happy to talk to you about the upcoming Gathering of Presbyterian Women.*

## 2009 CHURCHWIDE GATHERING PROMOTIONAL SKIT

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### **Those women . . . they're meeting again!**

by Carolyn MacDonna

Two people are standing almost back to back with newspapers in hand; they look like CIA agents. Talk is almost a stage whisper.

#1: Did you hear the news?

#2: What news?

#1: That women's group . . . they're meeting again.

#2: Which women's group is that? You mean the ones who . . . .

#1: Uh huh . . . the ones who meet every three years; they call themselves Presbyterian Women . . . the three years are almost up!

#2: What do you suppose is going on this time?

#1: Well, what I hear is that they have big plans. . . . Could involve a lot of people. . . . Could set them on fire. . . . Could rekindle lots of flames around here. I hear it is going to be wonder-full!

#2: You don't say . . . . !

#1: Yeah, I do say . . . workshops, speakers, crafts, inspiration, worship, music . . . all based on the theme "God will do wonders among you." There's no telling how far that will go!

#2: Wow! Tell me more! I want to commit this to memory. . . .  
OK, shoot!

#1: (#2 repeats each phrase as it is said): Repeat after me: "God will do wonders among you" . . . Louisville, Kentucky . . . July 11-15, 2009 . . . Kentucky International Convention Center . . . Register early. . . .

#2: You mean you have to register?

#1: You bet! The earlier, the better (and cheaper). Do it now. Spread the word, but watch your step.

#2: Why do I have to do that?

#1: Everyone is going to want to be there . . . so register early.  
See you in Louisville in 2009!

### **Commissioning service for presbytery and synod representatives to the triennial Business Meeting of Presbyterian Women and for participants in the Churchwide Gathering, July 11–15, 2009**

This service will require one woman to serve as presenter; she may or may not be one who will attend the Gathering. She may wish to dress in something sparkly and flowy, or at least wear the below-mentioned headband. If the commissioning includes handing out any of the items listed below, it will be helpful to have a second woman to distribute the items. (If there are two women, the presenter might dress like a magician and the other as her assistant.) In addition to this commissioning service, the presenter may wish to have any or all of the following, in quantities sufficient to give one of each item to all who will be commissioned, including any who will be absent from the commissioning service:

- headbands with stars (or other fun objects) affixed to them, antenna-like—another option would be a magic wand
- inexpensive reading glasses—if you have an artist in your midst, get plain black ones and have her paint them whimsically; prescription doesn't matter
- key chains, with keys attached—to unlock God's wonders, and open doors to them
- small votive candle and holder (different color for each category of attendee)
- fun food item, such as individual packets of almonds or other nuts, or chocolates
- synod and/or presbytery name badges

# COMMISSIONING SERVICE

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**Gathering Scripture:** *Joshua 3:5* (NRSV, adapted)

**Presenter**

“Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”

*Suggestion: after the scripture is read, invite all to sing “God of the Sparrow,” #272 in The Presbyterian Hymnal.*

**Presenter**

From *Fiddler on the Roof*, we have “Wonder of Wonders, Miracle of Miracles.” There’s the famous singer, Stevie Wonder. Many of us grew up eating Wonder Bread. And there are the seven wonders of the world, along with the recently-announced, *new* seven wonders of the world. Children look at the world with wide-eyed wonder. With wonders all around us, is it any wonder that the 2009 Churchwide Gathering theme is “God Will Do Wonders Among You?” Again this year, the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville will be the site of the Gathering; it will be the place where God’s wonders will be revealed, experienced, celebrated and cherished.

**Presenter calls PW in the Synod moderator**

[Name] is our PW in the Synod moderator. She will represent us at the triennial Business Meeting, held during the Gathering. In addition to experiencing God’s wonders, she will see that our interests and concerns are voiced and represented, and will vote on Presbyterian Women’s agenda and budget for the next three years. [Name], please come forward.

**Presenter calls PW in the Presbytery moderator and voting representatives**

[Name] is our PW in the Presbytery moderator, and [names] are our voting representatives. They will represent us at the triennial Business Meeting, held during the Gathering. In addition to experiencing God’s wonders, they will see that our interests and concerns are represented and voiced, and will vote on Presbyterian Women’s agenda and budget for the next three years. [Names], please come forward.

**Presenter to those who have come forward**

[Names], you will be our eyes, our ears, our heart, our mind, our voice during the Presbyterian Women Business Meeting. Do you promise to undertake this awesome responsibility with energy, intelligence, imagination and love?

**They answer**

I do.

**Presenter**

With joy, enthusiasm and our complete support, we now commission you to this role and responsibility.

**For PW in the Congregation or for others attending the Churchwide Gathering**

Now I would like to invite to come forward all who will be attending the 2009 Churchwide Gathering. (*Pause until all have gathered.*)

You will all, every one of you, have plenty of opportunities to experience God’s wonders among you. You will find them in the hymns and songs you sing, in the people you meet, in the lessons you learn, in the laughter that peals from your souls. You will experience God’s wonders in plenary sessions, workshops and worship in the Great Room, in the dining room, and the bookstore. We are excited for you to have this opportunity, and rejoice that you will return to us

with renewed openness to God's presence in this amazing, wonderful world!  
In order to help you experience all God's wonders, here are some things to take with you on this wondrous journey:

- A headband to remind you and others of the importance of child-like wonder
- Glasses, to open your eyes to God's wonders around you
- A key and key chain, to connect you to the wonders and to open them up
- A candle, that you will always have the wonder of the Light of Christ with you
- Something good to eat, so that you may taste the wonders of God's world
- A nametag, pin, button or other type of identification so you (and others) will never wonder who you are and/or who you represent!

### Presenter

Let us pray: God of all Wonders, we give you thanks for the wonder that is each of these women and for the wonder of faith you have so generously instilled in each. As they prepare to depart for the 2009 Churchwide Gathering, we ask, God, that yet more of your wonders will be revealed to them. May each one experience the wonders of community, creation, hope, grace, and love, in the plenaries and the programs, the worship and the workshops, the meetings and the meals, the informal connections and the after-hours visits. Help them expect the unexpected in you. As well, we ask that you keep each one safe and healthy during travel to and from the Gathering, and for its duration. Most of all, O God, we give you thanks for the wonder that is your Son, Jesus the Christ, and we pray all this in his holy name. Amen.

May the blessing of God—Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer—be present with you, as you make this journey and as you discover God's wonders among you; and with all of us, as we are renewed and refreshed, and reminded once again that God's work and God's wonders never cease! Amen.

- ◆ **Reconnect with friends at your synod luncheon.**
- ◆ **Support mission with "wonder-filled" gift cards for disaster assistance and children.**
- ◆ **Enroll children and youth in programs for attendees ages six months to 18 years.**
- ◆ **Carry your program book in a tote bag from Thailand.**
- ◆ **Enjoy four breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners that are included in your registration fee.**
- ◆ **Share your PW's favorite mission project through a poster.**

# 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

Louisville, Kentucky • July 11–15, 2009



## GOD WILL DO WONDERS AMONG YOU

—based on *Joshua 3:5*

- ◆ Experience the wonder of being in community with more than 3,000 Christian women from across the country and around the world.
- ◆ Be challenged and inspired by plenary speakers and worship leaders.
- ◆ Attend morning forums and afternoon workshops on a variety of topics, including the 2009–2010 *Horizons* Bible study, *Joshua*, by Mary Mikhael.
- ◆ Visit the Great Room—a place to wander and wonder—for music, mission projects, resources, exhibits, Global Marketplace, conversation and relaxation.
- ◆ Celebrate working together for 20 years as Presbyterian Women, inheriting the legacy of Presbyterian women's groups before us.
- ◆ Witness the installation of PW leaders for the 2009–2012 triennium.
- ◆ Learn how God can and will do wonders among you!

### Registration Information

Registration for the full event includes 10 meals, all programs, tote bag and program book. Registration forms will be available September 2008. The registration booklet will be included in the September/October 2008 issue of *Horizons*. You may order additional copies from Presbyterian Distribution Service, 800/524-2612; request PDS item CWG-09-001  
Registration begins January 15, 2009.

#### Registration fees

Early-bird registration (on or before May 15, 2009)	—\$380
Regular registration (after May 15, 2009)	—\$430
Weekend (Saturday evening and Sunday)	—\$150
One day registration	—\$140
Children and youth registration	—TBD

Limited scholarship aid will be available.  
For information, contact your PW Presbytery moderator.

For more information visit the Gathering Web pages, [www.pcusa.org/pwgathering](http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering).  
More information will appear in upcoming issues of *Horizons* through May/June 2009. See [www.pcusa.org/horizons](http://www.pcusa.org/horizons) to subscribe.

# Art Reproduction Sheet



## 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

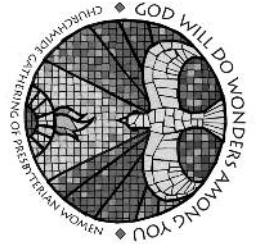
Louisville, Kentucky  
July 11-15, 2009



JULY 11 - 15, 2009 • LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN



2009  
CHURCHWIDE  
GATHERING  
OF PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

I hope to see you at the Gathering! Please accept  
this gift certificate and my personal check attached  
to pay \$ \_\_\_\_\_ of Gathering expenses.

From: \_\_\_\_\_

To: \_\_\_\_\_



## 2009 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

Louisville, Kentucky  
July 11-15, 2009