

**PNNE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
COORDINATING TEAM MEETING
January 26, 2010**

Present: Gail Brown, Joanna Damon, Elaine Brown, Diane Hoppe Hugo, Linda Pappin, Fran Bader, Bobbie Knickerbocker, Kay Shields; visitors: Dawn LaFond, Haverill First Presbyterian Church, Haverill, MA and Liz Blackman, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Kennebunk, ME.

Absent: Nancy Donnelly, Sue Harman, Charlene Isham

On January 26, 2010 the PNNE PW Coordinating Team met at Bedford Presbyterian Church, Bedford, NH. After worship led by Diane Hoppe Hugo at 10:00 in the sanctuary, co-moderator Gail Brown called the meeting to order at 10:25.

Linda presented the minutes from the August 18, 2009 meeting which were approved. She passed around a get well card for Sue Harman who was in the hospital following surgery.

The treasurer's report was received from Fran. Current available balance is \$3,221.55. We are doing well even though we spent more than we took in (due to Retreat and Louisville Gathering expenses) in 2009. **We need to include those items in future budgets. Fran is working on a budget. She will also revise the mission remittance form which does not work well for the churches.**

OLD BUSINESS

1. Search Committee

Elaine passed out a list of proposed offices and their new overlapping, two-year terms (replacing three-year terms). Bobbie moved (Joanna seconded) the **proposed change per the attached list be submitted to a vote at the Annual Meeting.** Motion passed.

Joanna has agreed to another term as liaison for Maine. A second liaison is needed for Maine. Dawn LaFond has agreed to fill the elected position of secretary at the annual meeting. **Elaine asked for ideas for moderator, co-moderators, or moderator and vice moderator, to replace Gail and Nancy, as well as for liaisons for New Hampshire. Joanna will get the historian's papers in order, but an historian is still needed.**

Liz Blackman accepted appointment as Communications/Newsletter editor and **will prepare a short newsletter within the next month to alert people of upcoming events. The deadline for submission of articles to Liz is Sunday, February 21. The newsletter will be mailed to the Coordinating Team by March 10 (allowing for distribution at the March 13 Presbytery meeting) and mailed to the churches by March 20.**

Anne Allen (Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church) has accepted the appointed position of Webmaster. **Fran will be available to help Anne in designing the website.** Fran has reviewed Mid-Coast Presbyterian's website and thinks it is a good model and needs to know what to put on ours. Possible inclusions are: photos of retreat, cluster meetings, newsletter, calendar of events, list of coordinating team and contact info, links to PC(USA), synod, presbytery (for info on special offerings, etc.), statement of what we believe, our budget, list of churches by state with contacts and CT

liaison, as well as links to their websites, PW icon (to be copied), and our mission remittance form.

2. Pledging/non-pledging churches

Bobbie reported that only two pledges have been received but that it is still early. She received a letter from the First Presbyterian Church of Barre, Vt, stating the Elwood Fellowship had disbanded. She reported she sent two letters out: one to the pledging churches and a different one to the non-pledging ones which assured them they were a part of PW mission even if they could not pledge and asked them for information on their mission activities.

3. PPGs

Gail reminded us that Presbytery Partnership Groups connect presbyteries within a Synod. Judy Cunningham (Synod of the Northeast) has invited anyone interested to attend a planning meeting in February for a PPG retreat for PNNE in October.

4. Budget

Fran will email a proposed budget to the CT before the May Annual Meeting.

5. Cluster Meetings

Kay reported on the Vermont Cluster Meeting which focused on how to lead Biblical studies. Nancy did a presentation of Spiritual Centers. Joanna reported that Maine's Cluster Meeting was at Leeds Church and focused on stewardship of the environment. Pastor Steve Hastings gave a talk on the subject. New Hampshire did not have a Cluster Meeting this year. Gail reminded us there is \$100 available to each state for an annual meeting. Meetings are usually in the fall.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Retreat Site/Finances

Gail and Kay reported on the Hulbert Outdoor Center, in Fairlee, VT, site of the May retreat. There are two bunk beds in each cabin meaning we could accommodate as many as 82 overnight attendees. Total cost for overnights is \$72 including 3 meals/double occupancy. The cost for day visitors is \$5 plus \$9-10 for lunch. It was decided to charge \$75 for overnights and to charge day visitors only for lunch (\$9-10). Donations for the scholarship fund will be requested and the \$5 subsidy for day visitors will come from the scholarship fund.

2. Agenda/Theme of Retreat

Retreat theme will be related to music. Fran cannot attend but will pass on her ideas. Manchester School of Music is a possible source for performer(s). It was agreed to have fewer activities than we had last year – evaluations indicated attendees felt rushed. Suggestions for performances/workshops included hymn sing, history of hymns, hand bells, liturgical dance, drums, Shape Note acappella singers from Vermont. Special music during worship was also suggested.

A limit of three musical events was decided on. Friday musical event would be a performance by the Shape Notes or if not available, liturgical dancer(s). Gail will contact a woman in Barre and Bobbie will try to locate a woman in Nashua who

performs liturgical dance. The second musical event would be a hymn sing with history of hymns. Registrants would be asked to indicate their favorite hymn on the registration form, and explain why it's their favorite.

For 5:00 arrivals on Friday before the program starts, there will be coffee plus **baked items contributed by the local churches (coordinated by Kay) and mission activities (coordinated by Bobbie)**. Two suggestions were rag dolls and the poem "The Weaver." **Gail and Kay will bring the retreat packets.**

Tentative schedule: Fri. night – special musical performance (?Shape Notes)
Sat. 8:20-8:50 Emmaus Walk/bird walk/spiritual center inside
9:00 – Hymn sing/history of hymns
10:15 – Business Meeting
Lunch
Music event #3 - ?
Service with communion

Title: After considering several titles (Worship in Song/Music: Pathways to God, Moving toward God through Song/Song and Prayer, Finding God in Music and Song) the CT selected Making a Joyful Noise to the Lord .

Action item for all: **look at last year's evaluation and send suggestions to Gail.**

3. PW Women's Stories

It was agreed that there are wonderful histories to be shared by PW women, especially some older members, and that these stories should be gathered and compiled for all to enjoy. A good format is the one-page interview "Spotlight" that appears in the Bedford Presbyterian Church newsletter (e.g., their article on Fran). **Fran offered to locate their articles on Ann Mitchell and other PW women. Joanna will interview Melva Geores and Dawn will contact Ellen Blackwell.**

We all are to think of women who should be interviewed and liaisons are to get people to do the interviews. Liz will put interviews in the newsletter during the year and also in binders for display at the retreat (possibly a small, starter display this year). Joanna and Dawn will explore possibility of doing A-V recording of women's histories at the retreat.

A possible theme suggested for the 2011 retreat was History of PW in the Churches.

**Next CT meeting: Bedford Presbyterian Church, Bedford, NH
Saturday, September 18 coffee 9:45; meeting 10:00-2:00**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Pappin, Secretary

Attachment: Revised roster
Attachment for file: Treasurer's report
Proposed terms of office