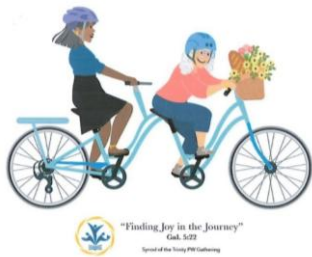




# The PWSnews!



News from the Presbyterian Women of the Synod of the Trinity



## Hitch a Ride with Us to a Joyful PW Retreat/Gathering!

### Finding Joy in the Journey

Thursday, July 16-18, 2026

Antiochian Village Retreat & Conference Center Ligonier, PA

Look for more information in these pages

#### PWS Search Committee Update:

##### Looking for Vice-Moderator for Programs

The search committee is still trying to fill the **Vice Moderator for Programs** for our Administrative Team class of 2026-2029.

This position is responsible for planning programs for PWS, including helping to plan the Regional Summer Gathering/Retreats in 2028 and the Synod-wide Summer Gathering/Retreat in 2029. The Vice Moderator may become the Moderator following the Vice-Moderator term; however, if someone would take it without that commitment, we could honor that. We would need to look for a moderator elect next year.

Please give this serious consideration. Look around in your PW. If you or someone you know would be interested in either of these two leadership positions, please contact Ellie Grove, Search Committee Chairwoman. Email: [elliegrove.pw@gmail.com](mailto:elliegrove.pw@gmail.com)

In order to allow our Presbyterian Women, The Synod of the Trinity to continue to be active we need people who are willing to take on leadership positions. You are never alone. The AT works together and is there to support you. Please give prayerful consideration to serving on Board.

#### April 2026- In this Issue:

- Save the Date – PWS Retreat July 2026
- PWS Search Committee Information
- PWS Retreat/Gathering Registration Info & Flyer
- 2026 PWS Mission Project

### The PW Purpose

**Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves**

- to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
- to support the mission of the church worldwide,
- to work for justice and peace, and
- to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

**PWSnews!** is an electronic of the Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity. To subscribe please, go to <https://mailchi.mp/75cfbd418456/pws-trinity> or email PWS Leadership, Resources Coordinator Bettie Stammerjohn at [bbstammerjohn@gmail.com](mailto:bbstammerjohn@gmail.com)

# 2026 PW Summer Gathering/Retreat

July 16 – 18, 2026

Antiochian Village Retreat & Conference Center, Ligonier, PA

***"Finding Joy in the Journey"*** (Gal. 5:22)



Registration & Check In begins Thursday 3:00 pm – Dinner at 5:00 pm – Opening Plenary & Keynote 6:30 pm  
Gathering/Retreat ends with lunch on Saturday

**Guest speaker—CeCe Armstrong, co-moderator 2024-2026  
PC(USA) General Assembly**

**Join us for Lively Worship, Special Workshops, Great Food, Inspirational Small-Group Time, Spirituality Walk, Toe-tapping music, Silent Auction, Games, Crafts, Mission Opportunities and More!!**

### Registration:

**Triple Occupancy Room - \$225 per person Double Occupancy Room - \$275 per person  
Single Occupancy Room - \$350 per person**



**Registration Includes:** 2 Nights hotel style lodging, 6 meals (2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners), plus snacks & beverages, conference folder, materials, Joy Room activities, PW resources; Choice of 2 workshop sessions on Friday; Worship service w/ Communion on Friday evening with Rev. CeCe Armstrong (PCUSA co-moderator 2024-2026); Optional Early morning Yoga or Prayer Circle activities (before breakfast); Evening relaxation and community activities, including Friday Movie night ("Up!") w/popcorn



**Hosted by The Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity**  
**Registration Form available at: <https://www.syntrinity.org/synod-pw/> or**  
**Contact Registrar at: [jamesalcinda@gmail.com](mailto:jamesalcinda@gmail.com) or 330-532-5747**

# PW Synod of the Trinity Retreat/Gathering

July 16-18, 2026 at Antiochian Village Retreat and Conference Center Registration Form

## Finding Joy in the Journey

Galatians 5:22



### PLEASE PRINT

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred name for Badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any special needs:

Medical Dietary Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

I Will Volunteer: assist communion \_\_\_\_\_ usher \_\_\_\_\_ where needed \_\_\_\_\_

Home Presbytery \_\_\_\_\_ Local Church \_\_\_\_\_

**The Gathering Event is being held at a beautiful facility:** Antiochian Village: [www.antiochianvillage.org](http://www.antiochianvillage.org)  
**All are welcome. Bring your friends, family and those you pray for.**

**Registrar:** Alcinda James, 41981 Old Irondale Road, Irondale, OH 43932

For questions, please e-mail: [jamesalcinda@gmail.com](mailto:jamesalcinda@gmail.com) or call 330-532-5747

**Cost includes; accommodation, materials, five meals (supper on July 16th, three meals on July 17th, and one meal on July 18th), as well as snacks during the Gathering.**

\_\_\_\_\_ Double Room \$275.00 Preferred roommate: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Triple Room \$225.00 Preferred roommates: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Single Room \$ 350.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Commuter rate \$160.00 includes: materials, meals, and snacks.

**Please make check payable to:**

**PW in the Synod of the Trinity** and send your Registration Form, Medical Form, Preference on Workshops and Check to the Registrar (address above).

Do you prefer confirmation of your registration plus added information by: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ USPS

**Registration deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Any registration after June 15<sup>th</sup> adds \$50.00 to your registration.**

**No refunds after June 30<sup>th</sup>**

On July 16 registration will begin at 3:00 p.m. and the gathering/retreat will start with Supper. On July 18<sup>th</sup> closing worship will end at noon. Yoga, (self-instructed) can be done on both mornings. Bring your yoga mat or a chair can be used.

**Important Information:** Items to bring that will be helpful, water/coffee bottle, lawn chair, sweater, money for offerings, and Silent Auction. Book Circle will be offered at Lunch. Also, this facility will give you the opportunity for some exercise, getting from where we will be staying and meeting to the dining room. However, we do have a 'Ride to Dine' option for those that would prefer to shuttle to the dining room.

**PW in the Synod of Trinity Medical Form (for emergency situations)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Medications \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Drug reactions \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Physicain \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Person to reach in case of EMERGENCY \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**Workshop Selections:**

(Workshops will be held if enough attendees sign up)

Mark your first choice with **A.** in front of the number of the workshop. and your second choice with a **B** for Workshop Sessions I and II. Each workshop is offered once.

See Page 3 & 4 for Descriptions of Workshops and Workshop Leaders.

**Workshop Session I (Friday 10:45am -11:45am)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 **Exploring Leadership as a fruit of the Spirit**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2 **UN Commission on the Status of Women**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3 **Radical Welcome: The Key to Communications With the Larger Community**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4 **PW Horizons Bible Study 2026-27**

**Workshop Session II (Friday 1:30pm – 2:30pm)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5 **Mulanje Mission College of Nursing and Midwifery in Malawi – Our Synod Mission Project 2026**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6 **The Joy Workshop**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7 **Joy in the Spirit Walk**

## Synod of the Trinity Gathering and Retreat 2026

### Workshop Descriptions and Leadership

#### **Workshop Session I. (Friday Morning 10:45 am – 11:45 am):**

##### **1. “Exploring Leadership as a fruit of the Spirit”**

Our purpose will be to discover the joy of leadership when a position in leadership is offered. During our time together will lead to the qualities of leadership that parallel our PW Purpose. **Pam Snyder, Moderator of PW Churchwide will be our leader**

##### **2. “UN Commission on the Status of Women”**

Hear the first-hand experience of our own **Bettie Stammerjohn** at the 2026 meeting of the United National Commission on the Status of Women. Learn how Presbyterian Women work in partnership and collaboration with Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations to advocate for gender equality and women’s empowerment at the international level and how we carry this advocacy back to our own communities. Bettie is currently serving as our Synod coordinator for Leadership, Resources and Communications.

##### **3. “Radical Welcome: The Key to Communications With the Larger Community”**

In this workshop we will explore an in-depth look at how our churches, presbyteries, and gathering spaces have perpetuated harm & oppression for many and how we can help to center the voices, concerns, and interests of those often not fully embraced within the church or society. Participants will discover how radical hospitality blesses our communities, enriching our dialog and creating greater engagement with the larger community. This workshop will be led **by Samantha Davis (Sam)**. Sam is a native of Pittsburgh and grew up in Grace Memorial Presbyterian Church. Samantha is serving as the Associate of Gender, Racial and Intercultural Justice and is an organizer with Free DC and Founder of the Black Swan on national committees within the Presbyterian Church, USA: Black Women and Girls Advocacy Task Force and the Self Development of People.

##### **4. PW Horizons Bible Study 2026-27**

***“United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians”***

Preparing our local circle leaders to journey on the road with Paul.

Leadership T/B/A

## **Workshop Session II (Friday 1:30-2:30)**

### **5. “Mulanje Mission College of Nursing and Midwifery in Malawi” – Our Synod Mission Project 2026**

Participants will learn how our one time giving will enhance this program for students of the Nursing College, led by **Rev. Paula Cooper**. Paula served eight years as the regional liaison for East Central Africa, facilitating PC(USA) relationships with partner churches and institutions in Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda and Zambia where the church is growing rapidly and pastoral training and leadership development are of major concern. Paula has provided support for PC(USA) mission personnel and Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) in the region. She is a lifelong Presbyterian and completed her seminary training (M.Div.) at Pittsburgh Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

### **6. The Joy Workshop**

When we offer up what gives us joy inside community, God connects us and multiplies our gifts! We are all multifaceted women with many finely developed gifts that we routinely use in our ministries. But connecting and reconnecting through what brings us joy is unmistakably different. Let's explore together how we're not meant to be just hard workers, but rather workers living in the overflow of God's love and the Holy Spirit's gift of joy. **Rev. Sharon Woomer** will lead this workshop. Sharon is a Presbyterian minister and the founding Pastor of Hope Community church, a new worshipping community that has emerged from an outreach ministry with Haitian neighbors in Charleroi, Pennsylvania

### **7. Joy in the Spirit Walk**

A guided walk on the beautiful grounds of Antiochian Village. This walk will be led by **Rev. Betsy McCormick** our PW Synod Chaplain. Walking shoes and a hat!

**The Book Circle – gather around a lunch table on Friday to discuss either one of two books:**

***“The House in the Cerulean Sea”* by T.J. Klune will be led by Karen Haas.**

***“The Celebrants”* by Stephen Rowley will be led by Sue Mummert.**

## *Synod of the Trinity PW Mission Project 2026*

### **Mulanje Mission College of Nursing and Midwifery (MMCNM)**

a member of the Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM), is owned by the Church of Central African Presbyterian (CCAP), Blantyre Synod.

It was established in 1930 by Scottish Missionaries.

***Our one time giving will provide the resources need to purchase critical equipment for the current skills laboratory to ensure proper training. It allows students to gain hands – on experience in a simulated clinical environment.***

The skills laboratory is a replica of the hospital where skills demonstration takes place and students take time to perfect their nursing and midwifery skills before they are allocated to the hospitals. The current skills laboratory equipment required by standards includes mannequins that students would use for various skills practice, such as wound dressing, bed bathing, feeding, cannulation, oxygenation, resuscitation, a pregnant mannequin for antenatal, labor delivery, and postpartum skills. Mannequin for neonate care

Mortality rates in Sub – Saharan Africa, with a recent estimated Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of 381 per 100,000 live births. The most common causes of these maternal deaths are preventable and are attributed to inequalities in access to quality health services. According to the World Bank report (2022), 82.02% of people in Malawi live in rural areas where access to quality health care is a challenge. <https://mbf.org/ccap-mulanje-college-of-health-sciences/>

**Donations should be sent to your PW treasurer.**

**Thank you for your support to enhance the learning experience for the students.**

Gratefully,

Suzanne Herger, Missions

Synod of the Trinity PW

[Suzanne.herger@verizon.net](mailto:Suzanne.herger@verizon.net)

267-471-0832

