



SEEDS

The Newsletter of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Los Ranchos

Editor: Janet Triplett janet-triplett@att.net

2023-2024 PWPLRCT

2ND QUARTER 2023

June, 2023

Dear Sisters in Christ:

Wed., June 21, at 7:57 a.m., marked the longest day and shortest night of the year, signaling that Summer officially began. School is out and vacations that have been planned are commencing. Welcome to the next season. As a retired teacher, I still find myself reflecting about the past year and forwarding my thoughts to the next one and what changes I want to make to be a more effective teacher!! I guess that is just part of my DNA! My year naturally spanned from September through June! I always managed to take a trip somewhere to “get away and see a different part of the world. What are your plans? A special trip perhaps that you have been yearning to take; or maybe time to spend more time with distant family and friends and create more special memories? Is this a time of reflection of the last year for you as well?



Might your PW or women's group at church be making plans for the coming year? You have now completed this year's study. Next year's Horizon Bible study will be ***Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts*** written by Rev. Dr. Olive Mahabir, a fourth generation Presbyterian and first in her family to be an ordained Presbyterian pastor. Dr. Mahabir writes that she fell in love with the biblical text as a preteen and at 18 decided to become a pastor. Both Luke and Acts, written by the same author, are considered two volumes of the same book, designated **Luke-Acts** and very unique. She writes, “Luke is the

only Gospel writer to continue the story post resurrection and to include the Ascension of Jesus Christ. Acts is the sequel to the Gospel and its continuation. The Gospel anticipates Acts and Acts reflects upon the Gospel. In Luke-Acts the message of Jesus Christ includes all people.” This study looks to be a powerful one and will give us much to ponder about.

We here in Los Ranchos and around our synod are in for a treat on **October 7, 2023**, when Dr. Mahabir will be present to share all about herself and this year's Bible study. More in the next edition of SEEDS. Once again and for the fourth year, I will be facilitating the Blessed Connections and Lights of Los Ranchos Horizons Bible study. I invite any woman across our presbytery and beyond to join on zoom. It has been and continues to be a wonderful way to connect with women all across Los Ranchos. We even connect and share a meal together at a central location occasionally.

Finally, as you read through this edition of SEEDS, you will see upcoming events and current information from Presbyterian Women nationally. If you have never been to Churchwide, 2024 will be the year it will resume in St. Louis. Have a great summer!

Anne Sivley,
Moderator, PWPLR



“Be the change you wish to see in the world.” – Mahatma Gandhi



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the first day of summer was Wednesday, June 21



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Driving a car can bring out the worst in Christians.

I heard about a stressed-out woman in a hurry, who was tailgating a slow driver. As they approached the traffic light, the light turned yellow, so the man in front of her slowed down and stopped as it turned red, rather than trying to accelerate through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious. She hit the horn, screaming in frustration that now she would have to wait at the red light.

As she was in the middle of her rant, the woman heard a tap at her window and looked up into the face of a police officer. He ordered her out of the car with her hands up. Then he took her to the police station, where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed and put in a cell. After a couple of hours, a guard approached the jail cell and opened the door. She was escorted back to the desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal belongings.

He said, "I'm very sorry for the mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing the horn, flipping off the guy in front of you and cussing up a blue streak. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Follow Me to Sunday School' bumper sticker, and the Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car."

<https://www.effinghamherald.net/lifestyle/holy-humor/when-christians-get-arrested-for-road-rage/>

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CHURCHWIDE

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii

Greetings from PWS Coordinating Team,

Happy Summer Days!

Please share widely the following PW resources with your PW (Women's Ministry) moderators, leaders, and all who may be interested in these resources. Get the latest from Presbyterian Women in the PCUSA, Inc.

<https://confirmsubscription.com/h/t/DB90701DFA8D5430>

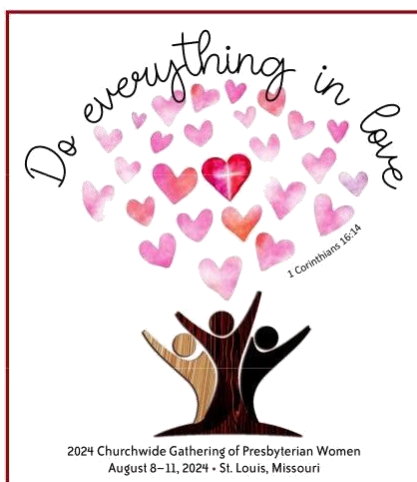
- PW NewsBytes, formerly the PW Quarterly Mailing, June 2023 edition—from Presbyterian Women Churchwide!... PW NewsBytes brims with "news you can use"—with current information, the 2024 Churchwide Gathering, and resources for the 2023-2024 Horizons Bible Studies:
- the July 2023 Justice and Peace Calendar - This can also be a resource to supplement the planning for your PWC's and mission engagements:

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/2023-JP-Calendar-FA.pdf>

PWP Moderators: Please remember to send your nominees to the Search Committee, Kathy Wareham (chair), Cheryl Kavapalu, and Gayle Timilione, by Monday, July 31, 2023.

Enjoy your Summer!

Blessings and In Kinship,
Debbie Law
debandfrank@yahoo.com



Save the Date!

The 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering will be held August 8–11, 2024 in St. Louis. The event will be a time to celebrate the PW community and consider the theme “Do Everything in Love.”

The Gathering theme is based on 1 Cor. 16:13–14 (NIV) and will have daily themes of “What Does Love Have to do With It?”, “Loving Our World,” “Loving Our Neighbors,” “Loving Ourselves” and “Loving Out Loud.”

What is the Churchwide Gathering (CWG)?

Held every three years, PW’s Churchwide Gathering is an event that celebrates and can deepen your engagement in all that Presbyterian Women does. Participants enjoy workshops, tours, forums, resource gathering (and shopping!), plenary sessions with inspiring speakers, worship and more. There are opportunities to connect with Presbyterian Women from your synod and throughout the church in a variety of settings.

Sign up with Patricia Longfellow (presbyterianwomen.org/gathering) to receive informative emails from Presbyterian Women (including the CWG).

Share about the GWG and consider extending an invitation or two or ten! Download the Save-the-Date cards from the Gathering website and share, share, share!

And stay tuned for a series of Gathering- specific emails beginning in August 2023.

Stay informed! Visit and bookmark presbyterianwomen.org/gathering

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii



A Live Encounter with *Sacred Encounters*

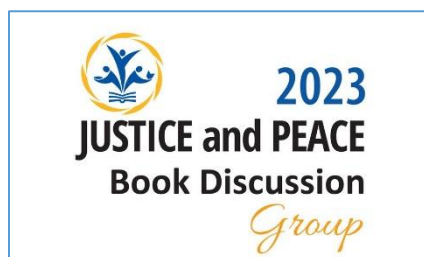
Save The Date! More information
3rd Qtr SEEDS

Are you looking for a place to learn about the 2023-2024 PW/ *Horizons* Bible study, *Sacred Encounters*, directly from its author Olive Mahabir?

On **Saturday, October 7, 2023, Olive will join the PW** in the **Synod of SCH** to discuss her study and invite readers to consider Jesus, “the good shepherd” (Luke 10:15), who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people. In this training you will gain a broad overview of the study and generate ideas for using it with your group.

Olive Mahabir is a fourth-generation Presbyterian and the first in her family to be an ordained minister. She was born on the island of Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean. In ministry for more than 20 years she has pastored churches in Michigan, Atlanta, and Jonesboro, Georgia. She’s a graduate of St. Andrew’s Theological College in Trinidad, the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, and Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia.

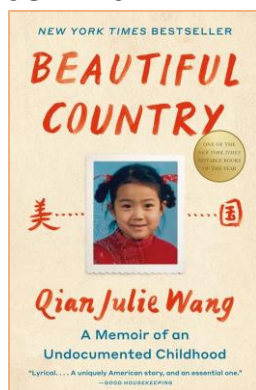
Get in touch with the event contact person, Shari Stump (lilypad50@hotmail.com), to see if there's room for you and take it from there. Road trip!



Register or learn more at
presbyterianwomen.org/justice.

Want the J&P calendar for the entire year?
<https://presbyterianwomeninthepecusainc.cmail19.com/t/t-l-ftttlk-drvodrt-j/>

JULY 10

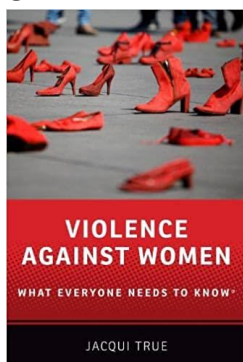


Beautiful Country: A Memoir of an Undocumented Childhood

by Qian Julie Wang (New York: Random House, 2021)

In Chinese, the word for America, Mei Guo, translates directly to “beautiful country.” Yet when seven-year-old Qian arrives in New York City in 1994 full of curiosity, she is overwhelmed by crushing fear and scarcity. In China, Qian’s parents were professors; in America, her family is “illegal” and it will require all the determination and small joys they can muster to survive.

SEPTEMBER 11



Violence Against Women: What Everyone Needs to Know

by Jacqui True (New York: Oxford, 2021)

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a longstanding problem that has increasingly come to the forefront of international and national policy debates and news. Yet, while we frequently read or learn about particular experiences or incidents of VAWG, we are often unaware of the full picture.

NOVEMBER 13



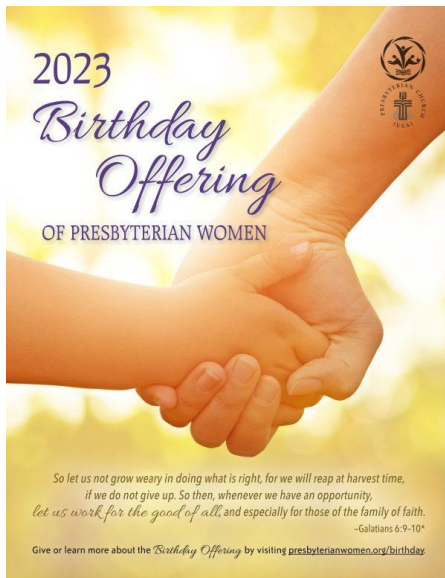
Wind River

(2017 film featuring Jeremy Renner and Elizabeth Olsen)

Cory Lambert is a wildlife officer who finds the body of an 18-year-old woman on a Native American reservation in snowy Wyoming. When the autopsy reveals sexual assault, FBI agent Jane Banner arrives to investigate. Teaming up with Lambert as a guide, the duo soon find that their lives are in danger while trying to solve the mystery of the teen's death.

“Do not waste time bothering whether you “love” your neighbor; act as if you did. As soon as we do this we find one of the great secrets. When you are behaving as if you loved someone you will presently come to love him.” — C. S. Lewis

<https://www.overallmotivation.com/quotes/cs-lewis-quotes-friendship-heaven-love/>



2023 Birthday Offering

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women celebrates our history of generous giving. Launched in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Birthday Offering has become an annual tradition. It has funded over 200 major mission projects that continue to impact people in the United States and around the world. While the projects and donation amounts have changed, Presbyterian Women's commitment to improving the lives of women and children has not. We ask for your support so that PW can continue funding mission projects like the ones selected for 2023.

Give as you have been blessed, generously and as led by the Holy Spirit:
<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/giving-funding/give/>

To learn more, visit https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/birthday-offering/.

For 100 years, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives.

This year's Birthday Offering recipients are:

**Making Miracles Group Home
Phase II Group Home**
makingmiraclesgrouphome.org
Tallahassee, Florida
\$150,000

Making Miracles Group Home (MMGH) helps young mothers break the cycle of abusive relationships, addiction, incarceration and early motherhood—a repeating pattern that is difficult to break and overcome. Since its inception in 2010, MMGH has served over 100 women and their children by providing a one-year, live-in program designed to support young mothers and help them develop skills to live independently and care for their children.

Current eligibility criteria require residents to be pregnant and/or have a single child up to age three, but mothers who have a single child older than age three or multiple children often seek help. With the Birthday Offering grant, MMGH will purchase a second group home to serve an additional five families who are at risk of experiencing homelessness. With loving support and tools to establish stable, permanent housing, these families can look forward to a hopeful and successful future.

**Berhane Yesus Elementary School
Kindergarten School Construction**
berhane-yesus.info
Dembi Dollo, Ethiopia
\$99,400

Berhane Yesus Elementary School, located in the western highlands of Ethiopia, seeks to change lives by sharing the "Light of Jesus" and by providing the best possible educational experience for the children of Dembi Dollo. Berhane Yesus provides children with the possibility of a better future by preparing them for a rigorous high school education and a life of Christian service. The school is the first entry point to education for children of subsistence farmers, migrant workers and displaced groups of people.

This K-8th grade school has been serving the community and been a part of the Presbyterian Church in this rural community since 1921. A kindergarten was added to the school in 2012, but with no available space for class, the children met in the chapel. Over the years the number of kindergarten students has increased and now space of their own is not only needed but is required by the government to remain open. Western Wollega Bethel Synod provided land for the classroom and the Birthday Offering grant will provide all necessary funding for its construction.

"You are who you are meant to be. Dance as if no one's watching. Love as if it's all you know.
Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today." — James Dean

"Strength of Flexibility"



She embodies the PW Purpose. She models grace under pressure. Difficult days and seasons do not dampen her enthusiasm in sharing the Good News of Christ. She shows up, helps, prays and provides. Inspired by others who have trod this path, she serves with kindness and is a light for generations to come. She is a Presbyterian woman.

"Here am I; send me!" (Isa. 6:8b)

On July 31, 2023, Presbyterian Women commemorates 35 years as a reunited ministry. Through these 35 years, Presbyterian women have demonstrated strength through flexibility through the freedom granted by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy

Spirit as lived out through 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.

To help celebrate this special day, will you share your stories about the women who have demonstrated strength through flexibility as a PW? Perhaps she found new ways to serve when a door was closed; overcame a personal challenge to blossom into a fine leader; or remained vigilant to find solutions for an ailing ministry or friend. Or perhaps she offered a strong shoulder during your saddest day, or stepped in when you needed an advocate.

Share your ideas and photos with carissa.herold@pcusa.org. And please offer a financial gift (\$35 for 35, now there's an idea!) to support the many ministries of Presbyterian Women. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/give and select "PW Gives" or send a check (with "PW Gives" in the notes line of the check) to Presbyterian Women, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652. Or return this form with your check made payable to Presbyterian Women.

Celebrating 35 Years as Presbyterian Women

I look forward to another 35 years of Presbyterian Women. I offer my **PW Gives Day 2023** gift of

☐ \$35

☐ \$50

☐ \$ _____

to support PW's Annual Fund, which financially undergirds Presbyterian Women.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____

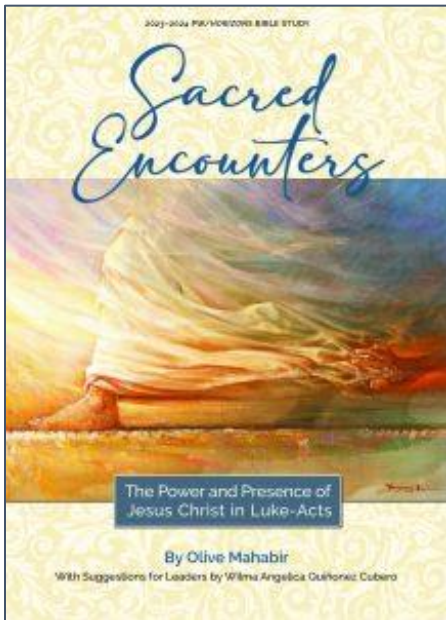
Email _____

Comments to share:

Return your form to:

Presbyterian Women, PO Box 643652, Pittsburgh PA 15264-3652

The 2023–2024 PW/Horizons Bible study by author Olive Mahabir



Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts

Suggestions for Leaders by Wilma Angélica Quiñonez Cubero

Within the pages of this study, Olive Mahabir invites you to consider Jesus and Jesus' disciples who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people.

The Gospel According to Luke and the book of the Acts of the Apostles, or Luke-Acts, "one story in two parts," demonstrate the unfolding of God's redemptive purposes in human history and present a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ. Written by Luke, a physician and traveling companion of Paul, the message to the early Christian community (and to us) is radical, inclusive, and hope-filled.

Two Online Presbytery and beyond monthly ZOOM 9 week Horizons Bible studies are starting up in September from 9-11 AM.

Choose either the first Wednesday of the month (Blessed Connections) or the third Tuesday (Lights of Los Ranchos). All are Welcome! Contact Anne Sivley by email annesivley@aol.com or phone 714-501-4399 for information/registration.

Horizons Magazine

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons-magazine/>

Horizons is the magazine (and Bible study) by and for Presbyterian Women. It's the resource for helping you explore where faith and life connect. Focusing on issues of faith—from the interplay between literature and theology to violence against women—*Horizons* gives you insights from women around the world and inspiration to live boldly. Within the pages of *Horizons*, you will find a wealth of information you need to live in faith as a Presbyterian Woman. Inside you will find mission stories, ideas for justice and peace work, information about Presbyterian Women and our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), devotions, Bible study resources (to support the annual PW/*Horizons* Bible study) and a short Bible study on the issue's theme! *Horizons* is just for you because *Horizons* is about you and your sisters in faith, amazing Presbyterian Women!

A print subscription to *Horizons* includes five issues of the award-winning magazine and the annual Bible study.

Subscribe (or renew) subscriptions — Call toll-free 866/802-3635 or subscribe online.

<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe/>

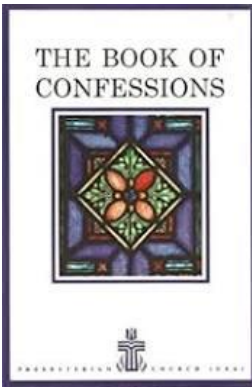
"Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, **HOPE**

Donate: <https://pda.pcusa.org/>



Exploring the Book of Confessions

Saturday mornings via Zoom, 9:00 to 10:00 am, August 5 to September 10

A six-hour course explaining the role of theological standards in the PC(USA) and introducing each of the twelve documents contained in our *Book of Confessions*

All are welcome! Contact David Beary for more information.

Norwalk Presbyterian Church
david.beary@fpcdowney.com

Office: (562) 861-6752



Caregiver's Support Group

Join **Yorba Linda Presbyterian Church's** loving and caring **Caregiver's Support Group** which gathers together once a month on the second Monday of every month from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to share in confidence our caregiving experiences and gather strength, ideas, and support on best ways to care for our loved ones as well as ourselves.



Grief Support Group

YORBA LINDA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH has started a new Grief Support Group, meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday from 3-4:30 pm.

For more information <https://ylpc.org/groups-studies>

CAGI Annual Conference and Convention: Hosts Needed for Guests from Kenya

August 26-29, 2022

You are invited to walk alongside Church of Amazing Grace International (CAGI), a NWC (new worshipping communities) of PLR (Presbytery of Los Ranchos) in Fullerton. They are expecting participants from Kenya and around USA. The bulk of those attending from Kenya are from the session and membership of PCEA (Presbyterian Church of East Africa) St. Andrews Church, Nairobi.

Church of Amazing Grace International Worships at Morningside Presbyterian Church
1201 E Dorothy Lane, Fullerton, CA 92831

Learn More <https://losranchos.org/2022/06/an-invitation-to-walk-alongside-church-of-amazing-grace-international/>



Musings — Where God Is

Sent to me while I was convalescing. . . Janet Triplett, Yorba Linda Presbyterian Church (YLPC)

"I am in Northern California for my niece's wedding tomorrow. Attaching a photo from the gardens where the event will take place. Maybe a little beauty will help cheer you up."



Photos and text by
Roxanne Ford
YLPC



"Adding one more because nature is fun and varied and reminds me that God has a sense of humor. This cactus looks like it has baby pineapples on top."

Photos by Janet Triplett, YLPC



Musings — Where God Is

“My Daily Walk With God”

Text and Photos By Diana Law, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Long Beach

On a lovely day while taking my morning walk with God, I saw the inner light from this rose glowing.

May you be the light that someone sees today. Let your inner glow show.

Share the love. ❤️



On this gray cool early morning, as I walked with God, I noticed that the flowers seem brighter. And this flower was radiant.

May your gray days be brighter with the knowledge that you are truly loved by our Heavenly Father, God Almighty.



Last night it rained in my area. And I was like a young child on Christmas morning with anticipation as I walked with God in the early morning. I knew that some of the flowers would be covered with raindrops, and I looked forward to seeing them glisten. To my delight I felt like I was given a gift when I saw this blushing rose.

May you be gifted with simple pleasures on your daily walks with God too. 😊



It's another gray morning, and while I was on my morning walk with God, I took a different path. And to my delight this lovely flower, was waiting to be seen.

May you know that you too make a difference in the plans God has placed before you. Have a blessed day, and share the love.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY
PRESBYTERY OF LOS RANCHOS
TREASURER'S REPORT

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Total 2022
Balance Forward	9,853.53	8,944.53	9,536.53	9,536.53	9,853.53
Receipts					
Operations Pledges	101.00	592.00	0.00	0.00	693.00
Bogie Grant Funds					0.00
Prentice Mission				68.33	68.33
PW Missions	1,590.63	812.13	583.00	985.79	3,971.55
PW Churchwide				500.00	500.00
Memorial gift					0.00
Bank Statement Adjustment					0.00
Total Income	1,691.63	1,404.13	583.00	1,554.12	5,232.88
Subtotal	11,545.16	10,348.66	10,119.53	11,090.65	15,086.41
Disbursements					
Synod Pledge					0.00
Bogie Grant Rising Tide					0.00
Bogie Grant Wise Place					0.00
Bogie Grant Menaul School					0.00
Bogie Grant (Angel Interfaith) St. Camillus					0.00
Bogie Grant So. Co. Outreach					0.00
Moderator Expense					0.00
PW Missions	2,600.63	812.13	583.00	1,185.79	5,181.55
Churchwide				500.00	500.00
Chase Bank Checks					0.00
Bank Statement Adjustment					0.00
Total Disbursements	2,600.63	812.13	583.00	1,685.79	5,681.55
Ending Bank Balance for the quarter	8,944.53	9,536.53	9,536.53	9,404.86	9,404.86
Bank Account Distribution:					
Minimum Bank Balance	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Operations	1,457.87	2,049.87	2,049.87	1,349.87	
Designated Churchwide	2,005.00	2,005.00	2,005.00	2,505.00	
Designated Prentice Fund	481.66	481.66	481.66	549.99	
Designated Bogie Mission	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total	8,944.53	9,536.53	9,536.53	9,404.86	

PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATIONS
(BOGIE FUNDS)

January 1, 2022	48,255.57			
March 31, 2022	49,350.26			
June 30, 2022		40,278.82		
September 30, 2022			39,607.65	
December 31, 2022				41,323.98

Submitted: Jo Sutton, Treasurer
5/30/2023

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE PRESBYTERY
PRESBYTERY OF LOS RANCHOS

TREASURER'S REPORT

1st Quarter 2023

Beginning Bank Balance January 1, 2023		\$9,404.86
Receipts		
PW Missions	2,385.68	
Operations		
Prentice Fund		
Total Income		<u>2,385.68</u>
	Subtotal	11,790.54
Disbursements		
PW Missions	2,184.18	
Total Disbursements		<u>2,184.18</u>
Ending Bank Balance March 31, 2023		\$11,790.54

Bank Account Distribution:

Minimum Bank Balance	\$ 1,500.00
Operations	\$ 7,303.88
Designated Churchwide	\$ 2,505.00
Designated Prentice Fund	\$ 481.66
Designated Bogie Mission	
Total	<u>\$11,790.54</u>

PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATIONS
(BOGIE FUNDS)

	Submitted
January 1, 2023	\$ 41,323.98
March 31, 2023	\$ 43,301.72
June 30, 2023	
September 30, 2023	
December 31, 2023	

Jo Sutton, Treasurer
Submitted: 5/30/2023