




PW Synod Gathering

Workshop Titles & Descriptions

Including Market Place, Offering and additional information

There is a separate workshop SELECTION worksheet to reserve your selections

<p>Gathering Offering Recipients (2) Make check payable to PW-SLAP</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Synod of Lakes & Prairies Presbyterian Women Native American Scholarships at Sisseton-Wahpeton College in Agency Village, SD and Oglala Dakota College in Kyle, SD 2. South Dakota Women's Prison Chapel/Chaplin in Pierre, SD
<p>GIFT CARD COLLECTION</p>	<p>You are encouraged to bring WALMART Gift Cards for Igutheca.</p>
<p>MARKETPLACE</p>	<p>WHITEWOOD ROOM throughout the Gathering Multiple vendors are scheduled. Come and shop for gift items, PW items and more! Native artists will have their creations for sale.</p>
<p>PW HISTORY PHOTO COLLECTION</p>	<p>You are encouraged to bring photos of your PW activities for the Synod Historian, Judy Bell. Please include activity name, site, date and individual's names: do not write in ink on the back of the photo. Post-it note or label with information.</p>
<p>Program Book Ads, starting at just \$50 Recognize your leaders/workers</p>	<p>Now is the time to purchase your group/individual ad for the program book. A full-page ad is just \$150. {Think of it as \$50 per year to tell someone how much you appreciate them every triennium.} A half-page ad is half the price at \$75. And a quarter-page ad is only \$50. Send your request and payment to Synod Treasurer Terri Sherman at 12244 N 84th St.: Lincoln, NE 68517. Ad copy may be emailed to her at terrisherman99@gmail.com</p> <p>Gathering committee staff will happily build your ad for you at no additional cost. Just submit the information you want included and a photo, if desired, and we'll do the rest!</p>



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THESE TWO WORKSHOPS ARE FOR EVERYONE IN HERITAGE THEATER

<p>Shining our Light in Dark Places <i>Louella Voigt</i></p> <p>Gen 28:15 <i>I am with you and will keep you wherever you go</i></p> <p>Friday 1 pm</p>	<p>Listen to stories and recollections from a delegate from our Synod who was able to participate in the 2023 USAME (PW USA Mission Experience)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen & learn • Build relationships • Faithfully Serve
<p>Introduction to 2025-26 Horizons Bible Study: Finding Resilience, Joy and Identity in Jesus Christ <i>Kitch Shatzer</i></p> <p>Saturday 1 pm</p>	<p>Introduction to content of the Bible Study and suggest resources and teach ideas to Bible Study Leaders.</p>
<p>Title/Presenter Workshop #/Day/Time/Location WORKSHOPS THAT WILL HAVE ON-SITE COST/MATERIALS OR ENCOURAGE OFFERINGS ARE NOTED IN RED</p>	<p>Workshop descriptions <i>NOTE: a particular workshop/presenter may be canceled because of a low number of registrants. You will be notified at registration about workshops available and encouraged to attend another. Thank you</i></p>
<p>The Importance of Awe <i>Kathleen Keefer</i></p> <p>Workshop 6 Saturday 11 am <u>COTEAU</u></p>	<p>Awe experiences are self-transcendent. They shift our attention away from ourselves, makes us feel like we are part of something greater than ourselves and make us more generous towards others. But what is awe? What are the effects of awe?" from the Science of Awe. When we focus on feeling awe in our everyday lives, we become the light for others, we show them the awe of life.</p>
<p>Make a Joyful Noise <i>Kristi Holler</i></p> <p>Workshop 4 Friday 3 pm OR Workshop 8 Saturday 3 pm <u>HERITAGE THEATER</u></p>	<p>Please join me in making a noise to the Lord! We will sing our favorite songs and hymns, making music together from the heart. No musical background or experience necessary! Where two or three or more are gathered, Christ is present! We will sing and shout, laugh and cry, and most of all---make a lot of joyful noise together!</p>



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<p>Forgive! <i>Kathleen Keefer</i></p> <p>Workshop 8 Saturday 3 pm <u>HEARTLAND</u></p>	<p>We are called to embrace forgiveness. As a community we strive to forgive and support each other. But can we genuinely forgive someone and move forward? What does it mean to truly forgive? What are the transformative effects of forgiveness? Forgiving someone is a complex journey, but the experience of it can be freeing.</p>
<p>Armchair Advocacy <i>Kathleen Keefer</i></p> <p>Workshop 3 Friday 2 pm OR Workshop 5 Saturday 10 am <u>HERITAGE THEATER</u></p>	<p>We are called to champion the environment, uplift the vulnerable, support service institutions, and cherish our families. But how does one step into the role of an advocate? What tools do we need? Are our busy lives a barrier to effective advocacy? Are we too old to wave signs and stand on icy street corners? Must we? With today's technology, advocacy is more accessible than ever. The challenge is, with countless pressing issues, how do we decide where to focus our efforts? How do we find reliable information? Where do we start?</p>
<p>Soul Collage: Transformation Through Images and Reflection <i>Denise Shannon</i></p> <p>Workshop 6 Saturday 11 am OR Workshop 7 Saturday 2 pm <u>COTTONWOOD</u></p>	<p>Spiritual growth can take many forms and images along with creative activity is one of the best ways. Through guided meditation, Creation of a soul collage of images. Along with reflection, participants will gain insight into their own faith, spirituality, and the state of their soul.</p>
<p>Shining Light on the Native American Boarding Schools <i>Marilyn Stone</i></p> <p>Workshop 4 Friday 3 pm <u>PRAIRIE</u> OR Workshop 8 Saturday 3 pm <u>COTEAU</u></p>	<p>Native boarding schools were founded to eliminate traditional Native ways of life and replace them with mainstream American culture. The first boarding schools were started in the mid-nineteenth century either by the government or Christian missionaries. This workshop will explore the life-long trauma caused by these boarding schools, the generational impact and the role of the PC(USA).</p>



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<p>Processing Enlightenments from the Mission Trip to Lake Traverse Reservation <i>Marilyn Stone</i></p> <p>Workshop 1 Friday 10 am <u>PRAIRIE</u></p>	<p>Many sites were visited during the PWS Pre-Gathering Mini Trip to the Lake Traverse Reservation and many speakers were heard. This workshop provides an opportunity to further discuss the experience and the topics addressed, including Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, support services for prevention of domestic violence/abuse, college scholarships for Native students, boarding school experiences at the Tekakwitha Boarding School and more. You do not need to have participated in the mini trip to join this discussion.</p>
<p>Follow the Light: CSW Beijing+30 <i>Glenna Haller</i> PW Synod Representative to CSW</p> <p>Workshop 2 Friday 11 am OR Workshop 5 Saturday 10 am <u>COTEAU</u></p>	<p>Glenna will share her experience at the UN Commission of the Status of Women (CSW). She attended the 69th session, March 10-21, 2025 in New York City. CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body dedicated to promoting gender equality and empowering women. . She will share her experiences and describe events she attended. Follow the actions of 30 years since Beijing platform --- celebrating successes and looking at future actions.</p>
<p>Let your Creativity Shine <i>Fern Cloud</i></p> <p>Workshop 2 Friday 11 am OR Workshop 8 Saturday 3 pm <u>COTTONWOOD</u></p>	<p>Participants will make a cross-over bag with the Gathering theme scripture design & native motif. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Please pay at workshop.</p>
<p>Gentle Chair Yoga <i>KC Ringsaker</i></p> <p>Workshop 1 Friday 10 am Or Workshop 5 Saturday 10 am <u>COTTONWOOD</u></p>	<p>Take care of your mind and body and join in for this gentle yoga flow. Work on strength, flexibility, and balance while focusing on the breath. Ending class with a five-minute period of relaxation to rejuvenate the body after practice.</p>



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<p>Be the Light to End Period Injustice <i>Judy Chesley, MD</i> <i>Judy Rops, RN</i></p> <p>Workshop 5 Saturday 10 am OR Workshop 6 Saturday 11 am <u>HEARTLAND</u></p>	<p>Every month, nearly 2 billion people menstruate—but alarmingly, millions of women and girls do not have the resources or support to manage their periods with dignity. The ability to care for oneself while menstruating is not only a health issue, but also a human rights issue. Judy Chesley, MD and Judy Rops, RN will discuss the root cause for period poverty and the many inequalities that women who are menstruating face, even in our local communities. Learn how Presbyterian Women can address period insecurity issues. <i>Participants should bring a small basket for period products that you will take back to your church/area and keep stocked.</i></p>
<p>Israel, Palestine, Gaza and the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) <i>Christy Reiners & Judy Rops</i></p> <p>Workshop 3 Friday 2 pm <u>COTTONWOOD</u> or Workshop 7 Saturday 2 pm <u>COTEAU</u></p>	<p>Christy Reiners, In His Steps Director, traveled to the Holy Land in February to deliver 310 wheelchairs to war-torn Gaza. The need is great. Christy will share her experiences and offer “on the ground” pictures, information, and future plans for this area. Resources will be shared. The PC (USA) has been calling for peace and justice since the Israeli occupation in 1948. Palestinian people live under a consistent and systematic process of apartheid and face expulsion from their land by Israel. This has become even more urgent nowadays with the massacre of Gaza’s population. Help stand in solidarity with our Palestinian Christian siblings and indigenous people as Presbyterians seek to exemplify the teachings of Jesus speaking out when people are suffering.</p>
<p>Place it on a Lampstand: Best Practices for Saving and Sharing PW History <i>Caitlin Reeves Greenamyre</i> Columbia Seminary Archivist</p> <p>Workshop 3 by ZOOM Friday 2 pm Or Workshop 4 by ZOOM Friday 3 pm <u>HEARTLAND</u></p>	<p>This workshop focuses on best practices for preserving PW history at the congregational level. I will focus on “Saving” and “Sharing”—what you can do to ensure the records and history you want to preserve survive and are accessible well into the future, and what makes preserving records and histories worthwhile. Participants will leave with tools for accessing their archival material, ideas for preserving it onsite, and suggestions for leveraging it for storytelling and fundraising.</p>



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<p>Provide a Credible Witness for Justice/Restorative Actions <i>Milissa Carter</i></p> <p>Workshop 1 Friday 10 am OR Workshop 2 Friday 11 pm <u>HEARTLAND</u></p>	<p>Restorative Actions is an economic equity initiative born from the intersection of theology, justice, and economics. It allows U.S. Americans who benefit from institutional racism, to provide a credible witness for justice, by acknowledging the unjust advantages produced by racism, and then surrendering the gains of those advantages toward the establishment of just relationships with Afro-American and Indigenous communities.</p>
<p>Dome Homes <i>Chief Henry Red Cloud</i></p> <p>Workshop 3 Friday 2 pm OR Workshop 4 Friday 3 pm <u>COTEAU</u></p>	<p>Chief Red Cloud started Red Cloud Renewables on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and it was the recipient of the PW Birthday Offering. The goal is to build affordable, efficient, dome homes while training workers in construction skills. Chief Red Cloud will share insights into this exciting project.</p>
<p>Welcome the Child <i>Lisa Schrader</i></p> <p>Workshop 7 Saturday 2 pm OR Workshop 8 Saturday 3 pm <u>PRAIRIE</u></p>	<p>This program was a PW Thank Offering recipient. Director Lisa Schrader will tell us about the program and the impact it has on families and children on the Pine Ridge Reservation</p>
<p>Introduction to the RED Team <i>Louise Van Poll</i> Moderator, PW Synod of Lakes & Prairies</p> <p>Workshop 5 Saturday 10 am <u>PRAIRIE</u></p>	<p>Anyone interested in the Racial Equity Dialog program through the Churchwide PW is invited to this informational meeting. Our goal is to form a RED team in our Synod to help presbyteries and congregations to begin or continue the dialog on racial equity. We will set program goals and a tentative Zoom schedule for quarterly meetings, as well as practice a conversation technique to build trust in our relationships.</p>



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MISSION PARTNERS Hands-on-Mission	SWAN ROOM throughout the Gathering
<p>Lap Robes for Seniors to Brighten Their Days <i>Pat McKisson</i></p> <p>Workshop 2 Friday 11 am</p>	<p>Help create 10 or more lap robes for seniors reside at a local nursing facility. These robes can bring warmth on a chilly day and a little brightness to their lives. No experience necessary. Join us anytime during the day on Friday & Saturday in the SWAN ROOM if you would like to help finish any lap robes that need to be completed.</p>
<p>National School Bags <i>Pat McKisson</i></p> <p>Workshop 4 Friday 3 pm</p> <p>Email Pat McKisson at pmck1947@gmail.com for School Bag instructions.</p>	<p>PDA/Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Kids Kits Please bring sewn School Bags to the Gathering. Bring Kit contents (if you want to donate) for assembling completed Kids Kits. This includes the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One box of 12 colored pencils • One 2-pocket folder • One glue stick • One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip, only) • One 70-page spiral bound notebook (no loose-leaf or filler paper) • One 30-centimeter/12" ruler • One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package • One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers) • Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers (removed from packaging and use a rubber band to hold the pencils together) • One box of 24 crayons (only 24) • One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid color or kid-friendly fabric, no logos, reusable shopping bags or backpacks) • Optional item: One handmade or bought pencil pouch. Size 10.5" x 5.5"
<p>Celebrate Newborns with the Warmth of Baby Hats <i>Pat McKisson</i></p> <p>Workshop 6 Saturday 11 am</p>	<p>Make pompoms and sew them on knitted baby hats made with loving hands by a longtime member of PW. Did you know that hospitals put hats on newborn babies to ensure they stay warm. Newborns have very little body fat so it is important to protect them from becoming chilled and getting sick. To be distributed within the Synod.</p>



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<p>Mission Partners Wrap it Up</p> <p>Workshop 8 Saturday 3 pm</p>	<p>Now is the time to finish what we all started! Let's get together and be sure all the projects are completed and ready to share. Or paint a rock.</p>
<p>Just for Fun Rock Painting</p> <p><i>Pat McKisson</i> Drop by anytime during the Workshop times</p>	<p><i>Join us anytime to explore your creativity</i> through rock painting. This is a fun and easy way to relax and just have fun. All you need will be provided. Let your light shine through creativity. JUST FOR YOU TO TAKE HOME</p>

GATHERING HELP WANTED:

LOVING, WILLING SERVANTS WITH HELPING HANDS

We are seeking the PWS CT's help in managing the 2025 Synod Gathering. We have compiled a list of job opportunities/responsibilities that need loving, willing servants to volunteer, direct, guide and manage. What will you choose?



Please look over the list and decide what God is calling you to do to help at the Gathering.

(Each Synod Committee expected to have some kind of informative display plus encouraging every PWP and local PWs to provide a display of some kind)

Contact SLAP PWCT committee mods to: finalize table size and remind them of their responsibility for a display LVP

Book Discussions Facilitator: (needed 1 *Baptizing America*)

Photographer: Take photos of all group events and candid shots throughout the Gathering.

Add your volunteer choice information to your completed Registration form.