

EASTERN OREGON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2010 REPORT

Our Spring Gathering was held at First Presbyterian Church, Pendleton on Saturday, April 24, 2010. Cecilia Moran, synod delegate to the PW mission trip to El Paso-Ciudad Juarez, told of her experiences on the Beyond Borders: A Call to Serve the Immigrant. Cecilia told of many sad situations in both El Paso and Juarez dealing with the immigration problems. But she also reported on progress being made and a few success stories. Our offering went to Pasos de Fe, a group offering help to immigrant women and children.

Judy Wilkins brings crafts from all over the world to sell at our gatherings as a mission project. She also sells coffee, chocolate, tea, and olive oil to the congregation.

Five women from Pendleton, 2 of them first-timers, represented EOPW, at the PW Synod Gathering in San Francisco, April 16-18, and reported to the group on their highlights of the gathering. All said it was very interesting, informative, and worthwhile. One benefit is getting to know our sisters from all over the Synod of the Pacific.

We have some very active women's groups doing marvelous things in their communities. They host fundraisers, give scholarships, fill backpacks with food for the weekends for needy children, support shelters for abused women and children, a home for homeless teens, a thrift store in an isolated area, and much, much more. (Before each gathering I ask each church's women's group to mail me a report of their activities. Please encourage your church women to do so. We want to know what they are doing.)

Last fall we applied to PW Synod for the Geneva Jenson Trust Funds for a project to assist elderly Palestinians who are cut off from their families by border closures. Our project was selected and received \$1500 to provide meals and a home care person for 6 months.

Our September 25 EOPW Gathering was held at the Community Presbyterian Church in Pilot Rock hosting us. Our program was Joined and Knitted Together In Love, the Global Exchange mission to Eastern Europe in 2008. Our synod delegate, Gail Parker-Marshall talked about her experiences, and especially about the plight of the Roma, who have no homeland, are poorly educated, if at all, and are unwelcome nearly everywhere they go. Several groups are working with them now, but local prejudices are difficult to overcome. Presbyterian Women support a basket project, one of the crafts they do to raise money.

Our Spring Gathering will be held the last Saturday of April, the 30th, with the location and program to be announced later.

We all are grateful for the hard work and good deeds our faithful members render to those less fortunate, and pray that we can continue to do God's work in our communities for many more years.

Respectfully submitted,

Marj Hoagland, Moderator