



The Bridger is the Official Publication of the Presbyterian Women of the Missouri  
River Valley Presbytery

## MRV PW Spring Gathering

**Saturday, April 13, 2019**

**Bethany Presbyterian  
1900 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Council Bluffs, 51501**

Registration/Coffee/Fellowship 8:30 - Welcome/Introductions 9:30  
followed by Worship/Business Meeting

Speakers - 11:00  
Pot Luck Salad Lunch\* - 12:00 Noon



### **Speakers: Susan Medkser-Nedderman**

Presbyterian Women of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies CT - Communications Coordinator  
Central Nebraska

Was a member of the 2016 USA Mission Experience to the San Francisco Bay Area  
and will be speaking on that topic.

### **Kathleen Keefer**

Attended the 63rd Session of the United Nations Commission (in March of this year) on the Status of  
Women and will share her experiences.

**\*New this year - we are having a Pot Luck Salad lunch,  
so please bring a salad to share!**

## **Sue Medsker-Nedderman**

Sue has lived in 6 states, 11 cities/towns, and 18 different houses/apartments. She is the daughter of a Presbyterian pastor and a piano teacher/writer and has been a librarian, a financial secretary, a church secretary, a substitute teacher, and a stay-at-home mom (ask her which one she liked best). She has served at all levels of PW, most recently as the communications coordinator for PW in the Synod of Lakes and Prairies and the treasurer of her local PW. Sue is active at the Hastings Community Theatre, sings and plays handbells in her church choirs, and loves to read. She is the mother of three, grandmother of 5 (pictures available upon request), and is wife of 43 years to Bob Nedderman.

### **Some background on her 2016 trip:**

About the San Francisco Bay Area.

The San Francisco Bay Area encompasses 7,000 square miles across nine counties, and includes San Francisco, Oakland and San José. More than 7 million people live in this area, which has long been a gateway into America for generations of immigrants. Nearly one-third of Bay Area residents are immigrants (55% from Asia, 32% from Latin America, 9% from Europe).

Approximately 20% of immigrants in the area are undocumented. Documented and undocumented immigrants work heavily in service industries (farming, fishing, maintenance and restaurants) and construction, but many are highly educated, accounting for 47% of residents with PhDs (CIPC, Looking Forward, 2013). Faced with a number of limitations, many immigrants work in low-paying, exploitive jobs, even slave labor. Slave labor is common in massage parlors, restaurants, farms, brothels, even private homes.

**Out of the Darkness . . . into the Light (Jn. 1:5)** A group of Presbyterian Women will travel to the San Francisco Bay Area in California in September 2016 for the USA Mission Experience. Participants will encounter challenges to God's promise of a beloved community and witness to the faithful work being done by our sisters in the San Francisco and San José presbyteries. The USA Mission Experience equips women with an understanding of the region's history and culture, the existing ministry of the church and the challenges faced by local women and children. Participants will • develop skills to advocate for immigrants and survivors of human trafficking; • learn about human trafficking, domestic violence and immigration issues; • identify resources women can use to help eliminate slavery and domestic violence; and • examine the myths and realities of immigration and explore personal immigration stories.

***IF you plan on attending, please feel free to RSVP to me, Cathy Born [cfborn@gmail.com](mailto:cfborn@gmail.com) or (402)980-4604 before April 8<sup>th</sup>. Thanks.***