



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Kindred Spirit

March 2017 West Jersey Presbytery

Editor leadbeaterhc@verizon.net

Dear Presbyterian Women of West Jersey:

It is hard to believe that we are almost three months into 2017. The months seem to pass so quickly. We are busy preparing for our Spring Gathering which will be Saturday, April 22 at Presbyterian Church of Burlington where we will welcome Pam Stalcup of Prevent Child Abuse NJ (please see the flyer for additional details). We will dedicate our Birthday Offering and welcome new board members.

I would like to share a personal experience; one that I hope will enlighten and elate those of you who are reading this letter. I spent the weekend visiting two of my children who live in Pittsburgh. What you may not know about Pittsburgh is that not only is it the home of a large theological seminary—the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, but it is home to many Presbyterian Churches. My son attends one such church, a very large church located in a lovely, well-established neighborhood of Pittsburgh. Imagine my shock and dismay when I began to research PWs in the many churches of Pittsburgh only to find out that NONE exist.

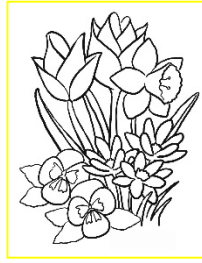
Here in South Jersey I believe we take for granted our many PWs and some of us are concerned that those that exist are shrinking in size. At board meetings, we discuss how we can reach more women and what the most effective strategies are for maintaining and growing our PWs and yet a city like Pittsburgh abounding in Presbyterian churches have no PWs. So you might be thinking why I chose to write on this subject at this time.

I have been an active member of Trinity Presbyterian Church's PW for over 25 years and for almost six years on the board of West Jersey Presbyterian Women. I cannot imagine what my life, both spiritually and socially, would have been without PW. My sisters in Christ have cried with me, they have laughed with me and most importantly shared this journey called life. Each of us has a PW story and today, I ask that you reflect on that story. How has PW made a difference in your life?

I pray that your reflections bring memories filled with both laughter and tears and pictures of how God brought you to this wonderful organization we call Presbyterian Women. Share these reflections with each other and women who do not yet know who we are. May God bless each of you and your journeys with your sisters in Christ.

I am yours in Christ,

Lisa Huber, Moderator, Coordinating Team of West Jersey Presbytery



West Jersey Presbyterian Women

Spring Gathering

April 22, 2017

Please join us for our 2017 Spring Gathering!

When: Saturday, April 22

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Where: Presbyterian Church of Burlington

300 Mill Rd, Burlington, NJ 08016

What: Our annual Spring Gathering includes a light breakfast, a brief installation service of officers, the dedication of the Birthday Offering, an enlightening speaker, and lunch.

Cost: Lunch is \$7 payable at the door.

Our speaker this year is Pamela Stalcup, Director of Development & Communications from Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey. April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month so it is a perfect time to learn from our speaker about the efforts to reduce child abuse in New Jersey. A quote from their website:

"Prevent Child Abuse-New Jersey (PCA-NJ) promotes Great Childhoods, positive parenting and healthy child development. Founded in 1979, all our efforts throughout the state are dedicated to preventing child abuse and neglect in all forms for all New Jersey children."

Please RSVP to Lisa Huber, Moderator, WJPWCT at jjLhuber5@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, April 22, 2017

Together in Service: *Sue Smith*

Knitting4Peace

Can you knit, crochet or sew? If you can, you could make an impact on the lives of children or adults in the U.S. and around the world.

"Peace Pals" (little knitted dolls), mittens, bibs, booties, baby blankets, **hats and caps, peace shawls**, socks and birthing kits all incorporating an **element of 3** in any creative manner are needed. **Three** represents the individual creator of the item, the recipient, and the Spirit of Life that unites all of creation. Three also symbolizes the importance of the three Abrahamic faith traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Please look at the **website "Knitting4Peace"** to find patterns for all the requested items. All this information is available on the website. No Computer? Call Susan Smith at 856-546-8482 and I will mail you the desired patterns!

Healthy Women Healthy Families is a year-round PC(USA)

ministry supporting Presbyterian partner churches' programs that promote health, education, and development of women and children around the globe. The program offers assorted note cards (five designs, blank inside) in sets of 25. Donations provide prenatal and essential obstetric services, trauma healing, fistula repair surgery, disease prevention and more. Visit www.pcusa.org/hwhf or call 800.728.7228, ext. 5279, or email Stephanie.caudhill@pcusa.org.

Presbyterian Women Churchwide Quarterly Newsletter : (articles for your use)

Celebrate the Gifts of Women is celebrated in the PC(USA) the first Sunday in March or whatever Sunday is most appropriate for your congregation. The Celebrate the Gifts of Women worship resource appeared in the November/December issue of Horizons magazine; the worship resource and other resources may be ordered from <http://store.pcusa.org>, or downloaded from pcusa.org/allwomen. We've heard from several of our West Jersey PW's who are leading worship with these resources—Haddon Hts. FPC on March 26, and Haddonfield FPC also in March. Kudos to our women who are mentoring others to this **leadership role**. You might even have a women's choir for the day, as is happening at Haddon Hts—giving our basses and tenors a day to sit in the congregation.

Women of the Reformation Tour, Oct. 28–Nov. 5, 2017

Observe the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in Geneva, Switzerland, on Reformation Sunday, October 29! PW's 2017 Women of the Reformation Tour will take place in Geneva, Switzerland and Sommieres, France, October 28–November 5, 2017. The cost of the tour is \$1,850 per person. Included in the registration fee are eight nights shared accommodations, all meals from lunch on the 28th through breakfast on the 5th, local transportation, and sightseeing and entrance fees. Airfare is not included in the cost. There is a minimum of five participants and a maximum of 10 participants for this tour. The application/registration deadline is July 1, 2017, unless registration maximum is reached before that date. To receive an application/registration form and tentative itinerary, please contact Kathy Reeves at katharine.reeves@pcusa.org, 844.797.2872, ext. 5402. Previous Women of the Reformation tour.

PW 101

If you are already reading the Quarterly Newsletter online from www.presbyterianwomen.org, then you are probably a PW leader! And you probably know all things PW! But many of our faithful women are unaware of some of the finer points of their amazing organization. That's why we are beginning a "PW 101" series. Each idea in the series is presented in such a way that newsletter editors and circle leaders can paste into their own documents and presentations. And if you are so moved to share an idea or two (or three or four) that you think should be part of this series, please share with Carissa.herold@pcusa.org. PW 101.1: The PW Purpose The foundation for all that Presbyterian Women is and does is the PW Purpose, our mission statement. 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. New! Help for those new to PW!

Shop AMAZON and Donate To Presbyterian Women

Amazon has created a way to support charitable causes. Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Inc. is one of its recipients. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of a purchase. Use smile.amazon.com and identify Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Inc. as the charity you would like the donation for your purchase to be given to. You shop the same way you do with amazon.com. Just go through smile.amazon.com and support PW each time you shop.



Celebrate the Birthday Offering Recipients:

Give to the 2017 Birthday Offering

Your gifts to the 2017 Birthday Offering will make it possible for three life-changing ministries to help families seeking shelter from domestic violence in South Carolina, provide marginalized citizens in rural Cuba with hope and health services, and provide water systems to more than 40 families in New Mexico. Please give and promote giving so that each of these grants may be fully funded in 2017.

The goal is \$500,000. Recipients are:

- [The Family Justice Center of Georgetown and Horrie Counties](#) South Carolina
- [Navajo Water Project](#) New Mexico
- [First Hand Aid](#) Cuba

We will dedicate our Birthday Offerings during our Spring Gathering on April 22. You may bring them to the Gathering or have your Treasurer forward them as we do our pledged offerings to Louise Coffin-Tilsner, 110 Kenwood Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

PW Financial Matters: ***Presbyterian Women celebrates giving in 2016!*** Mission

Pledge, PW's annual fund \$ 1,006,270 Birthday Offering 530,251 Thank Offering 503,550 *Honorary Life* 115,340 *Together in Service* 20,748 *Total (as of December 31)* \$2,176,159

2018 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women will be held

August 2–5, 2018, in Louisville, Kentucky. That is also the year that PW celebrates its 30th anniversary so you don't miss one bit of news about the Gathering, Email patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org and urge all your friends to get on the list. Nightly room rates are \$149/room, Gathering registration is \$425. Watch for additional updates in the newsletter that you can access online.

Working for Peace and Justice:

Reading Challenge Check-in! Are you participating in the 2017 PW Reading Challenge! Are you wondering what you should read next? **Presbyterian Women's Antiracism Committee** has recommendations!

-What Does It Mean to be White? Developing White Racial Literacy by Robin DiAngelo (New York: Peter Lang, 2012)

-Same Kind of Different as Me by Ron Hall and Denver Moore with Lynn Vincent (Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2006)

-Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly (New York: HarperCollins, 2016)

-Bright Lights, Dark Nights by Stephen Emond (New York: Roaring Book, 2015)

-Into White by Randi Pink (New York: Feiwel and Friends, 2016)

-Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving (Cambridge, MA: Elephant Room, 2014)

Presbyterian Women in the Synod:

By Charlotte Hasselbarth

Who is the foreigner? Who is the native? What is it like to be “the other”? These are the questions to be explored at PW in the Synod of the Northeast’s Triennial Gathering, “The Household of Faith,” August 18–19, 2017, at the Desmond Hotel and Conference Center, Albany, NY. Keynote speakers will be Larissa Kwong Abazia, Past-Moderator of the General Assembly, PC(USA), and Carol Winkler, current PW Churchwide moderator.

LOCAL P W NEWS:

Audubon Logan Memorial PW In March the Ladies of Logan Memorial in Audubon will take part in 3 simple Lenten soup suppers. Each week 6 volunteers will bring crockpots of soup to be served along with rolls and butter. We will also view and discuss a video on the life of Jesus. A collection will be taken for IMA World Health to provide medicines for people in third world countries.

In April, Ruth group and the Sunday School children will be making hygiene kits for Church World Service. We're hoping other church members will also help with this worthy project.

Cherry Hill Trinity PW

Presbyterian Women is a vibrant part of Trinity. It consists of 7 Circles which meet monthly to have a Bible study and fellowship with other women of Trinity. PW has three dinners with programs during the year, one in the fall, a dinner and worship and communion service in December and a spring dinner and program which includes the installation of officers for the following year. Each circle has a mission project each month and at each of the three programs throughout the year we collect for a specific organization. Some of the charitable organizations that PW supports are: R & M Boarding Home, Caring Hearts Ministries, Robin’s Nest, The Ronald McDonald House in Camden, Cathedral Kitchen, Mother’s Matters, Urban Promise, Hope Works, Seeds of Hope Ministries, VOA (Volunteers of America), Adopt a Family Program and Distributing Dignity to name just a few.

Rebekah Circle: recently collected pajamas and books for *Good Nights Pajama Program*. Pajamas and books go to children in foster waiting to be adopted. We also collected paper products for *the Cherry Hill Food Pantry*.

Priscilla Circle: has sent coats for the Trinity Church donation and support *the Mother’s Matter* mission this month, March. We will also go to *R & M Home* in April on a number of days for fellowship and to carry surprises to them. We wish Carole Warass happiness and contentment in her new home.

Missions: Trinity Presbyterian Church has a Thrift Shop, “*Care ‘N’ Share*,” which has been in operation for 45 years. We are open 2 days a week and 1 Saturday a month. All the money collected goes to local missions, approximately \$15,000.00 a year.

Deborah: has helped to support the *Cherry Hill Food Pantry*, collecting for *Mother's Matter* and we are now knitting caps for the next *Cancer Drive* for cancer patients.

Shiprah: Circle support *Caring Hearts* monthly and donates whatever the organization is in need of personal care items, children's games, etc.

Hannah: February 12 they went to their annual trip to *R & M Boarding Home*. They supported *Cherry Hill Food Pantry* in February and will collect for *Mother's Matter* in March.

Haddonfield PW

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL - Circle Friday, June 2, with your red pencil! Presbyterian Women of the First Presbyterian Church on Kings Highway in Haddonfield will be hosting a Strawberry Festival from 6:00 to 8:00 that evening. You'll be able to enjoy fresh strawberries served on delicious homemade pound cake topped with ice cream. And, the same time, you'll be entertained by a musical treat. The choir will be performing as well as smaller ensembles and soloists. Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music, and Ted Barr, Organist, will be at the piano, all ready to present us with an evening of fun. Start June with a happy smile!

As part of Haddonfield Presbyterian Church's PW mission, memorial funds have been used to loan money to deserving women through an organization called Kiva.

Kiva is an international nonprofit organization, founded in 2005 and based in San Francisco, with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. It has earned a 4 out of 4 star rating from Charity Navigator. Two-thirds of its operating costs are covered through voluntary donations made by Kiva lenders. The remainder of its costs are covered through grants and donations from foundations and supporters.

Since April, 2016, money has been loaned to 9 women around the world (from Ecuador, Cambodia, the Philippines, Pakistan, Paraguay, Lebanon, Peru, and Tajikistan) As the loans are repaid, the repayments are used to fund new loans, primarily to women to help them support themselves and further their education of themselves and their children.

This whole process is facilitated on Kiva's website, Kiva.org



Haddon Heights PW

Our Tuesday Morning Circle began making microloans in 2011. Since then, we have made 27 loans to women in 10 countries. Our total amount loaned has been \$5900 and we have five loans currently being repaid. During that time, we've had only one loan that was not fully repaid, but they have renegotiated and we may actually be getting more repayments from them.

This note came from Kiva in early March:

"Wow. We have really big news. Our community came together in such a huge way for International Women's Day. We not only hit our goal to lend \$3 million to women on Kiva in one week, but we DOUBLED it!

In fact, yesterday was the biggest day for lending in Kiva's 11 year history! You blew through every single record in our books, all to celebrate and support women around the world.

*Oh, and did we mention that **every single dollar of the \$1 million in matching funds was used**? Honestly, we couldn't have expected such amazing results.*

*Thanks to you, 16,473 women around the world are one step closer to following their dreams of starting or growing a business, going to school and investing in a better future for themselves, their children and their communities. You **did this, Women's Circle. Thank you.**" Best wishes, The Kiva team*

Dress-a-Girl Workshop held last October was successful both for the fun, fellowship and the number of T-shirt dresses we were able to send to Haiti via our missionary contact in Florida.

CANCELLATION Due to scheduling conflicts, It is necessary to postpone the workshop planned for April 2017. Do watch for our next date for Dress-a-Girl in the Fall 2017.

"Dining at Friendly's" on April 25. Morning Circle will hold a Fundraising event. Everyone is welcome to visit the Westmont Friendly's Restaurant, 4-9 PM, no coupons, ads or notice required.

Moorestown PW 100th year anniversary Rummage Sale - Wednesday, March 22 from 6-9 PM. and then Thursday AM from 10-12PM For the Bag Sale. Please come and support our Missions. It's a BIG Anniversary so we hope to have even larger crowds! Thanks, Debbie

Somerdale PW will be having their **retreat** on May 5 and 6, 2017 at the Pan Am Hotel, located on the beach in Wildwood, NJ. Our theme is "Making an Eternal Difference". Rooms are \$105.00 for triple, \$110.00 for double, and \$130.00 for single. Cost includes Friday night's buffet dinner, breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Any questions, please call Carol Repoley 267-745-9862.

Wenonah PW continues to support the residents of a local boarding home for the mentally ill, providing Christmas gifts, stockings, home-baked cookies, and decorating their home for Christmas. We deliver Easter baskets, birthday cards, and in the summer provide a barbecue picnic on their grounds.

We support other missions as well, including our own church and Youth Group projects. One excellent local mission project that we support regularly is the Angels of God Clothing Closet in Pitman @ <https://angelsofgod.org/>, which is so much more than just a clothing closet and well worth looking into!

We are currently enjoying a DVD Bible Study series called "12 Women of the Bible," which we watch and discuss at each monthly meeting.

2017 CALENDAR OF OPPORTUNITIES in West Jersey:

April 22	9:30 -12:30	PWP WJ Spring Gathering – Burlington
May 20	9:45 – 12:00	PWPCT Spring Meeting – Woodbury
July 22	9:45 – 12:00	PWPCT Summer Meeting – Christ, Marlton
October 14	9:30 – 12:30	PWPWJ Fall Gathering – TBA