

FROM THE TREASURER OF OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

As an active member of OPW and recently as OPW treasurer, I have learned much about how OPW operates. There are some items I would like to share for clarification to anyone who might not know or remember.

First, The Oxford Presbyterian Church and Oxford Presbyterian Women have two separate bank accounts and budgets. Because of this, checks should be made payable differently depending on which entity is receiving the money. Monies for the church general fund should be payable to Oxford Presbyterian Church. Any funds requested by Oxford Presbyterian Women, should be payable to Oxford Presbyterian Women or "OPW". If checks are payable to the incorrect account, it can usually be figured out, but then a check needs to be written from the incorrect account to the correct account. This is not a *big* deal, but it does create unnecessary work for the OPC financial secretary and the OPW treasurer. Thus, I would like to gently remind everyone to be sure to make checks payable to the appropriate account whenever possible.

Second I was surprised to learn how the OPW money is used. There are three offerings each year, which basically we collect, then send the entire amount to the Miami Valley Presbytery. These are our Mission or Benevolence pledges that are collected near the beginning of each calendar year, the Birthday Offering in the Spring and the Thank Offering in the Fall.

As for any fund raisers we have such as rummage sales, the cookie walk and potentially others, plus miscellaneous donations are monies which are ours to keep and disburse to local and other missions that the OPW coordinating team decides on. There is a possibility that these missions overlap with the church mission giving.

I am sure all our offerings are put to good use, I was just surprised to learn how much of it is not Oxford Presbyterian Women's to designate.

This being said, due to COVID OPW was unable to have our Spring and Fall 2020 Rummage Sales nor our December Cookie Walk and I am not sure if we will have a rummage sale this spring or not. This is why we asked for donations in lieu of our sales.

I had been confused on all of this and thought others might be also. So I am sharing information. If you have questions about any of this, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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Treasurer, OPW