



The Redstone Link Newsletter

Presbyterian Women
of
Redstone Presbytery

August 2020

*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!
Psalm 118:1*

Dear PW friends,

What a year this has been! I think that in the midst of a global pandemic, we need to be reminded that God is good, and that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

I know that this time of "sheltering in place" has placed an enormous strain on all of our congregations as they have been struggling to provide worship and outreach for members and friends. Presbyterian Women have not been immune to the struggle that Covid19 has brought to us. The Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Redstone has been wrestling with how to reach out to local PW groups, while honoring the need for social distancing. Our Coordinating Team has met via Zoom to try to determine a way forward. We have finally decided that we can NOT hold the Fall Gathering that we had hoped to hold on November 7.

Meanwhile, we can explore new ways to function as Presbyterian Women! Even though we can't gather in large groups in person, we can make use of this time to re-imagine ourselves and how we move forward into a new future that may be very different from "the way we always did it!" I wonder how many of your members would be interested in gatherings that either rely on Zoom, or make use of Facebook live to reach out to other women at this particular time? It would be helpful to hear from you about this, as we determine the way forward. Please feel free to call me with any suggestions!

I am enclosing with this letter the 2021 goal sheets for you to present to your local PW groups for consideration. Even in this time of Covid19, the Redstone Presbytery PW, Synod PW and Churchwide PW continue to seek ways to be faithful and so it is important for you to continue to support these ministries.

God be with you all,
Sylvia Carlson, Moderator
724-755-2288

THE REDSTONE LINK

The purpose of "The Redstone Link" is to provide information on the activities of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Redstone and the issues that concern them individually and corporately.

If your PW has some creative and/or unique projects, programs or upcoming events, please send them to Linda Blick, Communications Coordinator, 1314 Weber Court, N. Huntingdon, PA 15642 or email: lhblick@gmail.com. Deadline for the next Newsletter is January 8, 2021.

Birthday Offering

Total given by the local churches of Redstone PW in 2020 is \$400 compared to last year's \$1218.60. Your generosity is a blessing.

In order for a local PW or Women's Association to be listed as active on the PW in Redstone rolls, the Contingent Fund of \$1.50/person and the Synod Dues of \$22/group will be paid annually to the Treasurer, Sue Blank.

Web Addresses



www.redstonepresbytery.org –Redstone Presbytery website. Go to Presbyterian Women's link
www.pwtrinity.org – PW in the Synod of the Trinity website
www.presbyterianwomen.org - Churchwide Presbyterian Women's website
www.pcusa.org/marketplace - to order from the Presbyterian Distribution Service



**The Fall Gathering
to be held at
Pleasant View,
Smock on November 7, 2020
has been cancelled.**

Officers of the 2020-2021 Coordinating Team of Redstone Presbyterian Women

Moderator: Rev. Sylvia Carlson –
Redstone Presbytery

Vice-Moderator: _____

Secretary/Historian: Carolee Ackinclose-
Fayette City, Little Redstone

Communications Coordinator: Linda Blick-
West Newton UP

Treasurer: Rev. Sue Blank – N. Alex., Congruity

Co-Mission Coord: Tammy Noss–N. Alexandria,
Community; Kathy Haluska, Brownsville,
Ft. Burd.

Study & Action Coord: _____

Study & Social Action Rep.: _____

Horizons Rep.: Phyllis Frye - N. Alex., Congruity

Search Chair: Florence Shearer – N. Florence,
Bethel

Search: Sheila Kurtz – Vanderbilt, E. Liberty
Search: _____

Liaisons:

Phyllis Frye – New Alexandria, Congruity

Linda Blick – West Newton UP

Susan Nesti – Belle Vernon, Harmony

Florence Shearer - New Florence, Bethel

"CALLING WOMEN TO SERVE"

These offices will need to be filled by April 2021 for the Coordinating Team of PW in Redstone Presbytery.

- Vice-Moderator
- Resources for Study & Action Coord.
- Study & Social Action Rep.
- 1 Search Committee Member

Please contact Florence Shearer, Search Comm. Chair at flodon1953@gmail.com or (724) 235-2418 if you can serve!

Kathy Haluska, Ft. Burd, Brownsville, has accepted the position of Co-Mission Coordinator for the Redstone PW Coordinating Team. She will be working with Tammy Noss to find worthwhile missions for our PW to participate in. We thank her for accepting this assignment.



The 2020–2021 *Horizons* Bible Study is
Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament
P. Lynn Miller, author and artist
 Suggestions for Leaders by Dee Koza



This study revives lament as a proper theological response to the difficult situations of our world.

P. Lynn Miller is a PC(USA) pastor who has served as a workshop leader, graphic designer, and keynote speaker for conferences and gatherings. She is a painter, a designer of textile art and stained glass, a curriculum writer, a graphic designer, and an art historian. Presbyterian women will recognize Lynn’s work every time they see or don an Honorary Life Membership pin that Lynn designed.

The Bible Study is available for \$10.00. To place your order for Bible studies and other PW materials, call Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS), 800/524-2612 or order online at www.pcusa.org/store. Prices do not include shipping and handling (10% of order total; \$5.25 minimum, \$65.00 maximum).



Horizons is the magazine and Bible study for Presbyterian Women. It’s how we stay connected! Your 1year subscription for \$19.95 will include six issues a year and an annual Bible study. Subscriptions must be received by April 1 to receive that year’s Bible Study. Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.pwpcusahorizons.com



REMINDERS FOR LEADERS

- ❖ **Mission Goal Sheet for 2021** is included with this newsletter. Please give prayerful attention to your commitment to the mission work of Presbyterian Women worldwide and return your Goal Sheet by the due date.
- ❖ Now is the time to plan for the **Thank Offering**. Details of the offering recipients and a Dedication service are in the **July/August Horizon** or at the website – [https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what we do/support-mission/thank-offering/](https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/what_we_do/support-mission/thank-offering/)
Information on ordering free promotional materials can be found at the end of this Newsletter.
- ❖ **Important Dates**
 - **Sept. 10:** 3rd quarterly payment of Pledge due
 - **Nov. 7 :** Fall Gathering: has been cancelled
 - **Dec. 1:** Love Gift Offering & Synod Mission Offering due. (Send all payments and offerings to Sue Blank,
 - **Dec. 10:** Thank Offering due. 4068 Bushy Run Road,
 - **Dec. 10:** 4th quarterly payment of Pledge due. Jeannette, PA 15644)
 - **Dec. 10** Fellowship of the Least Coin due.

Congratulations to Susan Nesti. She was installed as the Moderator of PW in the Synod of the Trinity in July on a Zoom meeting of the Synod Coordinating Team. She will serve a 3-year term. Susan previously served as Redstone PW’s Moderator and is currently a Liaison on the Coordinating Team.





TOGETHER IN SERVICE (MISSION OPPORTUNITIES)
COORDINATOR: Tammy Noss, (412) 289-7401; tammynoss@comcast.net
9723 Route 22, Blairsville, PA 15717

SYNOD MISSION

Jeremiah's Place was the mission chosen for the **Synod Gathering**. Even though the Gathering was cancelled, it is important that we still show our support. The Redstone Coordinating Team voted to send \$100 as our contribution to this worthwhile mission. You are invited to donate. Information follows for your giving. The mission of Jeremiah's Place is to protect children and strengthen families by providing a haven of respite during a time of crisis or a childcare emergency. Jeremiah's Place is the only crisis center in the Pittsburgh Area for children from birth to six years old. Jeremiah's Place requested a grant from Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity to continue its CHEW (Children's Healthy Eating & Wellness) Program. These funds would be used to purchase healthy snack foods, formula and gift cards. Jeremiah's Place will also produce a community resource guide as part of the Grocery Gift Card Program. Gift cards in the amount of \$10 are requested from Target, Aldi, and Giant Eagle. These cards should be forwarded to Judith Jerry, 450 Stevens Drive, Apt. 204, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. For any questions contact Judith Jerry, Synod of the Trinity Mission Coordinator at (412)415-3523. **Please send by September 15, 2020.**

The 2020 SYNOD MISSION PROJECT is the Lighthouse Foundation for three transitional housing units that serve homeless women, single parents, two parent families, and those at risk for homelessness from 18-29 years old. The cost is \$5,100 per family for 18 months. They help to find employment and educational programs for the clients and as they are employed, they pay rent which is given to them as the deposit for future housing. Since 1985 The Lighthouse Foundation has been committed to serving the needs of individuals and families in Allegheny and Butler counties. It began as an outreach ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown eventually becoming its own 501©(3) non-profit organization. PW Synod has changed the collection deadline for Mission Projects to December 15, 2020. *Please make checks payable to Redstone PW. Write Synod Mission on memo line.* **Because the Fall Gathering is cancelled, please send this offering by Dec. 1st to Sue Blank, 4058 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15664**



LOVE GIFT OFFERING

This unique offering is only given by PW in Redstone Presbytery to support mission trips of individuals or groups, particularly the youth, from Redstone Presbytery. All women in the local PW groups are asked to give generously once a year. Any member of Redstone Presbytery, who is going on a mission trip, individually or with a group, may apply for funding. The application can be down-loaded from the PW link on the Redstone Presbytery's website, www.redstonepresbytery.org. Applications are to be submitted to The Moderator of Redstone PW by March 1st.

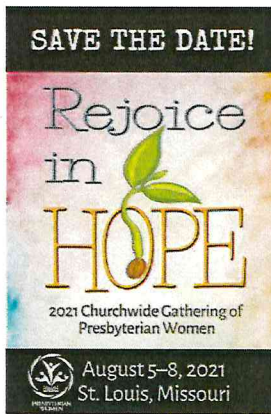
*Please make checks payable to Redstone PW. Write Love Gift on memo line. **Because the Fall Gathering is cancelled, please send this offering by Dec. 1st to Sue Blank, 4058 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15664***

PW Purpose

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves

- *to nurture our faith through prayer 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.*





2021 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

When: August 5–8, 2021

Where: St. Louis, Missouri

The theme for the Gathering is “Rejoice in Hope” based on Romans 12:12–13, “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.”

Fabric "Fun"draiser!

Stitching Change of Kansas City, Kansas, has been selected to provide the 2021 Churchwide Gathering tote bags. Through **Stitching Change**, refugee women learn a skill, earn an income, build confidence and flourish in community. And are they busy! They make shopping bags for the local farmer's market, various items for the Ten Thousand Villages store in Overland Park, and recently, have been focused on making masks; to date they have donated more than 900 masks.

Stitching Change strives to “create opportunities where women find real joy and energy in what they are doing.” One of their joys is knowing that the handmade products they craft are mostly from reclaimed or donated fabric. And this, dear Presbyterian women, is our joy, too!

Now through December 1, 2020, Presbyterian women of Southminster Presbyterian Church are accepting fabric and select notions (see specifics below) on behalf of **Stitching Change** from Presbyterian women throughout the U.S.! If your church or PW group collects fabric and notions for **Stitching Change**, please share a photo and story with sharon.gillies@pcusa.org.

Fabric and notion donation list:

Fabric: Minimum two yards of non-knit fabric; should be cotton blend or light cotton fabric. Gathering logo colors would be lovely (blue and yellow).

Thread: new or left-over (and newish) all-purpose or cotton thread (no quilting or embroidery thread)

Elastic (for masks): ¼-inch elastic, all colors!

Ship to:

Presbyterian Women
c/o Southminster Presbyterian Church
6306 Roe Avenue
Prairie Village, KS 66208

Questions? Contact Mary Jorgensen, mcjorgies@gmail.com.

A favor: We would love for the **Stitching Change** artisans to also receive photos or notes from you and your PW group! Tuck them into your donation box or drop an email to Mary Jorgenson!



A Grassroots Project to Help Refugee Women Empower Them

Thank Offering

2020
OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



*Do not worry
about anything,
but in everything
by prayer
and supplication
with thanksgiving
let your requests
be made known to God.
And the peace of God,
which surpasses
all understanding,
will guard your hearts
and your minds
in Christ Jesus.*

—Philippians 4:6-7, NRSV

In February 2020, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women met to review applications for Thank Offering grants. Fifteen of the projects were chosen for funding. More than 40 percent of the projects funded are health ministries. See page 26 for a list of this year's recipients. Please give so that more Thank Offering grants can be awarded next year, and promote the 2020 offering using the available resources.

Resources for Promoting the Thank Offering

Essentials

Available as a download, as well! The 2020 Thank Offering promotional booklet, which is routinely mailed to all PC(USA) congregations and PW leaders, includes grant recipient summaries; a dedication service; a greeting from the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women; ideas to promote and support the Thank Offering; a poster/placemat; and promotional resource flier. Item PWR20475; free.

2020 Thank Offering Korean- and Spanish-language promotional booklets are available on line. Free.

The 11" x 17" 2020 Thank Offering poster/placemat is versatile: use side one as a poster suitable for bulletin boards and trifolds; use side two as a placemat for dinners and tabletops. Available as singles so order as needed (limit 150)! Item PWR20473; free.

Receiving the Offering

Thank Offering group giving envelopes, traditionally used in PW circles and congregations, are available in packs of 25. Item PWR16479; free.

Individual giving envelopes are PW's "multipurpose" envelopes! These #10 green envelopes include an attached slip that allows an individual (or group) to choose where to direct her gifts as well as an area for credit card information. Available in packs of 10; item PWR20456; free.

2020 Thank Offering bulletin insert (one design)—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2020 Thank Offering bulletin cover (8½" x 11")—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2020 Thank Offering resource flier—Download at www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank; free.

2020 Thank Offering promotional video (English, Spanish and Korean)—Available on PW's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

More to Explore!

The July/August 2020 issue of *Horizons* magazine includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Available to order July 2020; item HZN20230, \$4.00. (Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons to subscribe!)

Coin/bill boxes, available in packs of 10. Item PWR07482; free

Ordering is Easy!

- Shop on line at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop.
- Or call 800/533-4371, Monday–Friday, 9 AM–5 PM EST.

Note: Thank Offering promotional materials are shipped free of charge. Shipping charges for other resources are based on weight of order (\$5.91 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico may incur additional shipping charges. Prices and availability may change without notice.