



# The Redstone Link Newsletter

Presbyterian Women  
Of  
Redstone Presbytery

August 2021

*God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?  
Micah 6:8*

Dear PW friends,

As summer draws to an end, I bring you greetings from the Coordinating Team of Redstone Presbyterian Women. We know that we are not yet out of the woods regarding Covid19 and the Delta variant which seems to be on the rise here in our own area, but we are hopefully and prayerfully optimistic about being able to gather in person in November for our Fall Gathering.

On August 4 and 5, as your Moderator, I attended the Triennial Business Meeting of Churchwide Presbyterian Women via Zoom. There was not a lot of business to transact. The main business was to approve the budget for the next triennium, 2022-2024; to update the language regarding women of color in the PW, Inc. Bylaws; and to elect the members of the 2022-2024 Churchwide Coordinating Team. The CCT has now gained NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) consultative status with the UN Commission on the Status of Women. This gives PW representatives attending the CSW full participation at the annual meeting. The first PW CSW Delegation consisted of 14 women who attended CSW63 in March 2019. The priority theme was social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The proposal to change the word kingdom to kin-dom in the PW Purpose did not receive the necessary 2/3 vote to approve it. There was a fair amount of discussion about this, and I may have more to say about this at the Fall Gathering that will take place on November 6 at First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg. Please take note of the flyer for the gathering that is included in this newsletter.

You will also be receiving a request from me to prayerfully consider your 2022 mission pledge for PW at the Presbytery, Synod, and Churchwide levels. I want to thank you for continuing to support the work of PW through your mission pledges to Redstone PW, Synod PW and Churchwide. We really rely on Presbyterian Women at the local level to continue the historic work that we began more than a century ago. Presbyterian Women have been at the forefront of advocacy and mission since the 1800s and continue to lead the whole church in mission and ministry.

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](mailto:lhblick@gmail.com). Deadline for the next Newsletter is January 28, 2022.

### Birthdays Offering

Total given by the local churches of Redstone PW in 2021 is \$1071.46 compared to last year's \$400. 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](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org) –Redstone Presbytery website. Go to Presbyterian Women's link  
[www.pwtrinity.org](http://www.pwtrinity.org) – PW in the Synod of the Trinity website  
[www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) - Churchwide Presbyterian Women's website  
[www.pcusa.org/marketplace](http://www.pcusa.org/marketplace) - to order from the Presbyterian Distribution Service

**The Fall Gathering will be held at Greensburg, First PC on Saturday, November 6, 2021**



### Officers of the 2021-2022 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

Mission Coord: Kathy Haluska, Brownsville, Ft. Burd.

Study & Action Coord: \_\_\_\_\_

Study & Social Action Rep.: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Search: The Coordinating Team will do this as a body.

### Liaisons:

Phyllis Frye – New Alexandria, Congruity

Linda Blick – West Newton UP

Susan Nesti – Belle Vernon, Harmony

Florence Shearer - New Florence, Bethel

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### **"CALLING WOMEN TO SERVE"**

These offices will need to be filled by April 2022 for the Coordinating Team of PW in Redstone Presbytery.

- Moderator
- Vice-Moderator
- Resources for Study & Action Coord.
- Study & Social Action Rep.

Please contact Sylvia Carlson, Modertor, at [sylvia65@comcast.net](mailto:sylvia65@comcast.net) or (724) 755-2288 if you can serve!

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### **Corrections in Directory**

- Susan Nesti's phone number in the Synod Moderator listing should be 724-326-8291.
- Under the Liaison listings, Smock, Pleasant View and First Fairchance should be active.

Murrysville, Newlonsburg is now discontinued.



# Redstone Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering

Saturday, November 6, 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m., includes lunch  
First Presbyterian Church, 300 S. Main St., Greensburg  
Directions are on the back of this flyer



Introduction to the 2021-2022 *Horizons* Bible Study  
*What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women  
in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus* by Merryl Blair  
with the Rev. Donna Havrisko, Honorably Retired

**Mission, Mission, Mission – PW Mission, Synod Mission, Churchwide Mission**

**Learn about the mission of the Greensburg Welcome Home Shelter  
with Shelter Director Tracy Scott**

**Gathering Mission Focus:** Support the Women Residents of the Welcome Home Shelter.  
Looking ahead to the holiday season, we will provide toiletries such as brushes,  
combs, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, soap, and other items for self-care.  
In lieu of these items, checks may be made out to the Welcome Home Shelter.



**Please use the tear-off form below.**

**Make check payable to: PW of Redstone Presbytery; *must be mailed by Friday, October 22  
so that the church can plan accordingly for the day.***

Mail check and reservation slip to: **Rev. Susan Blank, PW Treasurer  
4068 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15644  
724-523-6460**

2021 Redstone PW Fall Gathering  
First Presbyterian Church, Greensburg, PA

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

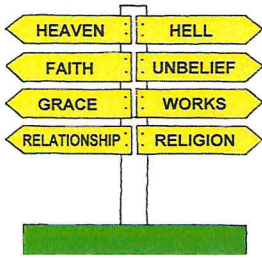
Number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ amount enclosed

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

List of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions (such as gluten-free) \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the back if necessary



## Directions to First Presbyterian Church

The address is 300 South Main St., (Route 119) Greensburg between Third and Fourth Streets. There are two parking lots adjacent to the church accessible from Third St. Additional parking is available on the street and is free at meters on Saturdays.

### **From points south and west:**

Take I-70 East to 119 north to the church. The church will be on your left. Access the parking lots from Third St.

**From the north:** Route 22 to route 66 south which becomes Main Street in Greensburg. Make sure you exit onto State Route 66 from Toll 66. If you miss the turnoff, you can still exit at the first exit onto State Route 66 south to Greensburg. The church is on your right.

**From Route 30 and points west:** take Route 30 E to the Pittsburgh Street exit, and turn right on Main Street, and then right on Third Street to the parking lots on the left.

**From Route 30 and points east:** take Route 30 W to Route 119 north (this becomes Main St.), turn left on Third St. to the parking lots off Third St.

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### **amazon shopping Going strong!**

When you shop Smile.Amazon.com with Presbyterian Women, Inc. selected as your charity of choice, Amazon will donate a percentage of your qualifying purchases to PW—at no additional cost to you! Visit Smile.Amazon.com and search for "Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Inc".

The quarterly notification shows that AmazonSmile has made a charitable donation to the **Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church USA Inc**, in the amount of **\$248.85** as a result of qualifying purchases made by customers who have selected this charity.

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TOGETHER IN SERVICE (MISSION OPPORTUNITIES)  
COORDINATOR: Kathy Haluska, (724) 724-322-9712; [kphaluska@gmail.com](mailto:kphaluska@gmail.com)  
128 Lynn Rd., Brownsville, PA 15417

**Fall Gathering Mission Focus:** Support the Women Residents of the Welcome Home Shelter. Looking ahead to the holiday season, we will provide toiletries such as **brushes, combs, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, soap, and other items for self-care.** After the Gathering, the Coordinating Team will fill gift bags with the donated items and give them to the Shelter to distribute to their residents for the holiday.

In lieu of these items, checks may be made out to the Welcome Home Shelter



The Welcome Home Shelter, located in Greensburg, combats homelessness in Westmoreland County and surrounding counties. They provide temporary housing and support services to homeless families, single parent families and single women. They offer a 30 to 60 day stay at the shelter. During that time, case managers attempt to address the reasons which caused the homeless situation and work with the client to find safe and affordable housing. Classes in budgeting, housing, home maintenance, nutrition and parenting are offered at the shelter. Each year Welcome Home assists an average 250 women, children and men who find themselves homeless in Westmoreland County or 7000 shelter nights.

More details about this mission are in the PW Mission Packet for 2021-2022, listing the many items that can be donated at any time. If you don't have a hard copy of the Mission Packet, it is located on the Redstone PW link of the Redstone Presbytery's website [www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org).

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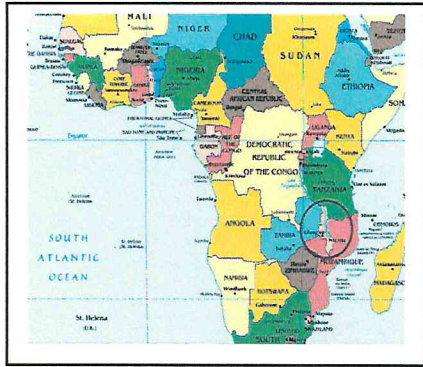


Pine Springs Camp was thrilled with the large donation of S'mores ingredients at the PW Retreat on May 18, 2021. Many thanks to all who made this important part of camp a highlight for the campers!

**TO ALL LOCAL MISSION COORDINATORS**

The Together in Service **Project Report Form** is no longer being used and the report will not appear in the Yearbook Reports. We urge you to continue supporting your local missions as much as possible. **If you have an unusual or interesting mission story, please share it with us through the Newsletter.**

**WE REALLY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT ALL YOUR GOOD WORKS!!!!**



The **2021 PW SYNOD MISSION PROJECT** is support for the **Prison Ministry of Rev. Stanley Chimesya in Malawi, Africa** through Concord Presbyterian Church, Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery.

He needs funds (\$10-13,000) to purchase a sturdy vehicle to aid him in transportation for his prison ministry. The following is a letter from the Rev. Karen Byrne, pastor of Concord PC explaining his needs.

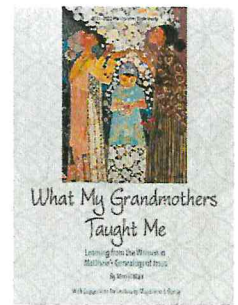
Rev. Stanley as he is lovingly called, is a fulltime prison ministry chaplain appointed to the position by the Synods within the country of Malawi, Africa. He ministers at the Zomba Maximum Prison which holds 2,500 men and about 100 women, with their children. He also ministers at seven other smaller prisons with about 2,400 inmates. He does counseling, Bible studies and church worship programs in these prisons. In order to effectively reach inmates spiritually he provides basic resources such as soap, clothing, sleeping materials, water buckets, food, and medical supplies. It is not unusual for the inmates to go 4 or 5 days without food or water. With limited funds Rev. Stanley often uses his own personal funds to meet some of these needs. He has even bought coffins and buried inmates in a Christian service (a first in Malawi prisons). He helps the most needy obtain lawyers to aid in their release. Rev. Stanley has in the past provided supplies for infants who are incarcerated with their mothers. One of the impacts of his ministry is to keep children in school when the parent is incarcerated and to keep family communication going. In addition, he visits ex-inmates to see how they are living in their communities, sometimes giving them a small amount of funds to begin a small business to keep them from returning to prison. He impacts this population by bringing these lifegiving supplies and the Hope of the Gospel to inmates. He has spoken before the United Nations about the impact of faith in poor prison populations. And through him, God has inspired a few authorities to put in wells in three prisons. There is one common denominator for all these activities. Transportation is necessary for the inmates to see their chaplain. Rev. Stanley had a small truck to aid in his ministry, but it has been totaled by the bad roads in rural Malawi. Travel time is very time consuming, especially when public transportation has to be used or vehicles hired. He must now hire vehicles to take supplies to the prisons, therefore making his visits rare. He had another truck temporarily, but it was taken from him under unusual circumstances. The request for funds from Concord Presbyterian Church and Rev. Stanley is for a sturdy vehicle which can be obtained from Japan for about \$10,000 to \$13,000 dollars. The truck needed is a Nissan X-Trail MR 20, NT31. Obtaining this truck would "make a day's work multiply in the kingdom" as stated by Rev. Karen Byrne, pastor of Concord PC.

PW Synod has changed the collection deadline for Mission Projects to December 15, 2021. **Redstone PW will request that you bring your donation to the Fall Gathering on Nov.6, 2021 at Greensburg, First PC.** or mail them to Sue Blank, Treasurer, 4068 Bushy Run Rd., Jeannette, PA 15644. Make checks payable to Redstone PW, write Synod Mission on memo line.



The 2021–2022 *Horizons* Bible Study is

***What My Grandmothers Taught Me:  
Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus***  
Merryl Blair, *author*  
Suggestions for Leaders by Magdalena I. García



Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary—Matthew names these women for a reason. How might Jesus have heard the stories of his grandmothers? What can these Grandmothers-of-the-Faith teach us? Their stories will lead us into the gospel, the good news about Jesus Christ.

Merryl Blair teaches at Stirling Theological School in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, and is active in the worldwide ministry of women of faith.

*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](http://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 \$24.95 will include five 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](http://www.pwpcusahorizons.com)

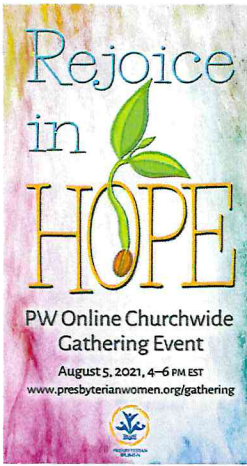


### REMINDERS FOR LEADERS

- ❖ **Mission Goal Sheet for 2022.** 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:** 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly payment of Pledge due
- **Nov. 6 :** Fall Gathering at First Presbyterian, Greensburg
- **Dec. 1:** Synod Mission Offering due. *(Send all payments and offerings to Sue Blank,*
- **Dec. 10:** Thank Offering due. *4068 Bushy Run Road,*
- **Dec. 10:** 4<sup>th</sup> quarterly payment of Pledge due. *Jeannette, PA 15)*
- **Dec. 10** Fellowship of the Least Coin due.



## 2021 Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women

The theme for the Gathering was "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."

Our Churchwide Gathering Event was held on Zoom and livestreamed on Presbyterian Women's Facebook page on August 5, 4-6 p.m. The Business meeting was conducted on August 4 & 5, 1-3 p.m. The online event included plenary and worship.

Livestreaming was made possible thanks to Gathering Sponsors. PW in the Synod of the Trinity and PW of East Liberty Presbyterian Church were also sponsors. When this was made known, I had a heartfelt moment.

Highlights were as follows, especially listening to our authors for our Bible Study.

- Merryl Blair, author of *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus* (2021–2022 study).
- Carol Bechtel, author of *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight* (2022–2023 study).
- Olive Mahabir, author of *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Luke* (2023–2024 study).
- Worship: The Rev. Diane Moffet preached and the Austin College choir provided music. Communion was celebrated as we "Rejoice in Hope".
- The Business Meeting was truly an event! Presbyterian luminaries including Stated Clerk J. Herbert Nelson, Nancy Taylor of the Presbyterian Historical Society, PW enthusiast and past GA co-moderator Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri, and of course, PW's very own outgoing and incoming moderator team all spoke.
- Nancy Taylor, Presbyterian Historical Society, spoke on how important it is for PW to remit your reports to your historian each year, for it will be our remembrances in years to come.
- Installation of Leaders for 2021-2024.

As we enter another Triennium this year, the Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will begin with a new budget, new priorities and a new leadership team.

The Gathering presents an opportunity to [subscribe to Horizons for just \\$19.95 a year](#). And those who love *Horizons* will enjoy hearing from PW/*Horizons* Bible study authors, present and future! Order your copy now.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan C. Nesti,  
Your PW Synod Moderator



## SPRING RETREAT REVIEW

On Tuesday, May 28, 2021, the PW Spring Retreat was held at Pine Springs Camp in Jennerstown. Rev. Norma Murphy, a retired PC(USA) pastor, took us on a journey to the Holy Land. We gained new insights into our faith history as we traveled with her to various places that are featured in the stories of Jesus. Donations of Hershey bars, graham crackers & marshmallows for s'mores for the campers were the Mission focus of the retreat. The spring retreat was a success with 43 in attendance. 10 women attended for the first time; 27 indicated that they would like to attend the Fall Gathering and 9 came from churches with no active PW group.



## 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. The Love Gift is collected and dedicated at the Spring Retreat. This year's donation total is \$1,532.50. 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 downloaded from the PW link on the Redstone Presbytery's website, [www.redstonepresbytery.org](http://www.redstonepresbytery.org). Applications are to be submitted to The Moderator of Redstone PW by April 30th.

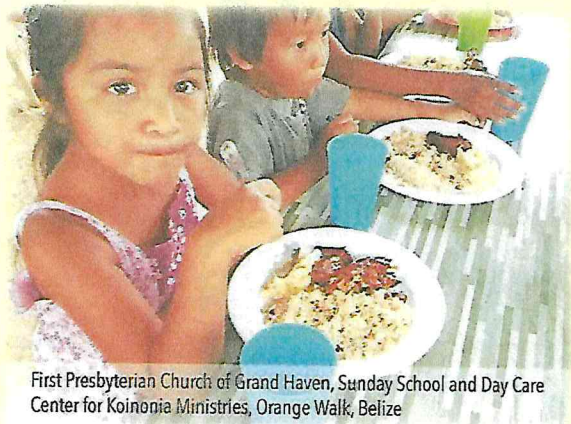
**Please encourage groups from your church to apply for funding if they are planning a trip.**

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**PW NewsBytes**—formerly the **PW Quarterly Mailing**—brims with “news you can use” from Presbyterian Women Churchwide! Just like the name suggests, *PW NewsBytes* is fully digital, which is good stewardship (of both finances and trees) and makes for easy sharing and a more connected PW community. Go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org), under Resources, click the link to read or download this quarterly newsletter.

# Thank Offering 2021

OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



First Presbyterian Church of Grand Haven, Sunday School and Day Care Center for Koinonia Ministries, Orange Walk, Belize

Happy is the one who listens to me,  
watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

—Proverbs 8:34\*

In February 2021, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women met to review applications for Thank Offering grants. Twelve of the projects were chosen for funding. More than 40 percent of the projects funded are health ministries. See the 2021 Summer issue of *Horizons* magazine for a list of this year's recipients. Please give so that more Thank Offering grants can be awarded next year, and promote the 2021 offering using the available resources.

## Resources for Promoting the Thank Offering

### Essentials

**Available as a download, as well!** The 2021 **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 PWR21475; free.

**2021 Thank Offering Korean- and Spanish-language promotional booklets** are available on line. Free.

The 11" x 17" **2021 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 PWR21473; free. Korean- and Spanish-language available on line as a download at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank); 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.

**2021 Thank Offering bulletin insert** (one design)—  
Download at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank); free.

**2021 Thank Offering bulletin cover** (8½" x 11")—  
Download at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank); free.

**2021 Thank Offering resource flier**—Download at [www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/thank); free.

**2021 Thank Offering promotional video** (English, Spanish and Korean)—Available on PW's YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen](http://www.youtube.com/presbyterianwomen).

### More to Explore!

The **Summer 2021 issue of *Horizons* magazine** includes the grant recipient list as well as a dedication service. Available to order July 2021; item HZN21220, \$4.00.

(Not a *Horizons* magazine subscriber? Call 866/802-3635 or visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons](http://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](http://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 (\$6.25 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico may incur additional shipping charges. Prices and availability may change without notice.