



The Redstone Link Newsletter

Presbyterian Women
of
Redstone Presbytery

March 2023

“Do Everything in Love” 1 Corinthians 16:14

Dear Presbyterian Women,

As Spring approaches, it seems we are moving faster and faster toward two upcoming events. The first is the Presbyterian Women’s Spring Retreat. Have you ever gone to a Spring Retreat? My first one was over 40 years ago. I was invited by my mother-in-law Dorothy Hart and did not know what to expect. The memory that has stayed with me all these years was from a moment when we were given time to be alone in nature and to be silent and open to God. I will always remember that feeling of His approach to me. I have thought of that moment many times over the years, and remember his still small voice speaking to me, not in words, but in knowing that I was in His presence.

This year, the Spring Retreat will be led by Donna Havrisko at Pine Springs Camp on Tuesday, May 7, 2024. Please come and enjoy the beautiful amenities of Pine Springs Camp and experience a retreat titled **“Closer Than the Next Heartbeat: Thoughts on Prayer.”** We are told that God is with us when two or more gather in his name. Come and enjoy a day out with your fellow Presbyterian women and experience thoughts on prayer, something we all need to do and experience.

The next upcoming event has been in the works for a couple of years. It is the Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women in Saint Louis, Missouri August 8-11, 2024. As your delegate to the Churchwide Gathering, I am thrilled to be representing Redstone Presbytery and excited to experience my first gathering. Registration is now open and limited scholarships are available. More information is available at <https://www.2024pwcwg.org/>. According to this website, **“The 2024 PW Gathering will be an exciting, faith-filled time to renew our connections within and across PW groups from across the country. Join us to be invigorated, equipped for your PW life, welcomed into community by hundreds of other PWs, and empowered to “Do everything in love.” For those unable to attend in person, opportunities are available to participate online.**

As we continue to pray for one another, remember there is so much good in our world even though the news may tell us differently. Presbyterian Women continue to do good in our communities and in the world. The PW Purpose says it all:

“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.”

Yours in Christ,
Patricia Hart
Moderator



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 Ct., North Huntingdon, PA 15642 or email: lhblick@gmail.com. Deadline for the next Newsletter is **July 31, 2024**.

Thank Offering

Total given by the local churches of Redstone PW in November 2023 is **\$1633.22**. 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

HELP

CALLING WOMEN TO SERVE

The office needed to be filled by **May 2024** for the Coordinating Team of PW in Redstone Presbytery is

- **Vice- Moderator**

If you can serve, please contact Patricia Hart, Moderator, 724-309-2456, patriciaannhart777@gmail.com





Redstone PW Coordinating Team News

Karol Elmore has graciously accepted the position of Mission Coordinator, replacing Kathy Haluska. Karol will continue in her other position as Co-Coordinator for Study and Action.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



- Redstone PW Spring Retreat at Pine Springs Camp, **May 7, 2024**.
- Churchwide PW Gathering at St. Louis **August 8-11, 2024**
- Redstone PW Fall Gathering Saturday, **November 2, 2024** at Poke Run PC, Apollo.

Keep updated with Churchwide CT news by logging onto the **PW NewsBytes** at the PW website, www.presbyterianwomen.org.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2024-2025 Directory/2023 Year-End Reports and Mission Packet will be distributed at the Spring Retreat at Pine Springs on Tuesday, May 7.



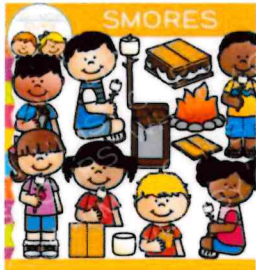
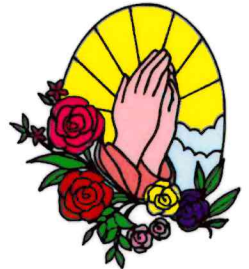
Redstone Presbyterian Women Spring Retreat Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Pine Springs Camp, Jennerstown, PA
Just north of Route 30 off Route 985

9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:30-2:30 Program for the day and a satisfying lunch

Closer Than the Next Heartbeat: Thoughts on Prayer

with Rev. Donna Havrisko. We'll explore how we can discern the voice of the Holy Spirit within us, and also the nature of grace in intercessory prayer. You've enjoyed years of *Horizons* Bible Study presentations at our Fall Gatherings with Donna, so you will want to be sure to join us at Pine Springs for this event.



The mission project will be to, again, supply the makings of S'mores for campers as they enjoy evenings around the campfire.

The 2024-2025 Redstone PW Directory and Mission Packet will be distributed.

The Love Gift Offering will be collected and dedicated.



Pre-paid Reservations are very important – Please use the tear-off form below

Make check payable to:

PW of Redstone Presbytery: mail by Friday, April 26th

To: Rev. Susan Blank, PW Treasurer,

4068 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15644 – 724-523-6460

2023 Redstone PW Spring Retreat

Church Name: _____

Number of persons attending: _____ @ \$20.00 each = _____ amount enclosed

Contact Person: _____ Phone _____

List of attendees: _____

Please let us know if there are special dietary needs, eg. gluten free _____



TOGETHER IN SERVICE (MISSION OPPORTUNITIES)
 COORDINATOR: Karol Elmore (724) 771-6558; karol.elmore@gmail.com
 529 Perry Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601

PINE SPRINGS CAMPERS really enjoy our donations for S'mores each summer so we're going to invite you to participate again. Please bring your donations of Graham crackers, marshmallows and Hershey bars to the PW Spring Retreat on Tuesday, May 7th. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, please drop off your donations at the Presbytery Office by May 1.



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!!!!

FOOD DRIVE CHALLENGE: CITY MISSION OF UNIONTOWN: MARCH 1ST – APRIL 30TH, 2024.

During March and April, City Mission conducts an annual Food Drive to raise funds for their emergency shelter programs. If your local PW gives a donation to the City Mission, but it is not this early in the year, try and change your donation to March or April. This way your donation will have a greater impact for the City Mission. In 2023, City Mission provided over 2,000 shelter nights to homeless men, women and children. Their funds have been cut and the need for support is great! Send donations to:

City Mission-Living Stones, Inc., P.O. Box 943, Uniontown, PA 15401

Fall Gathering Review



On Saturday, November 4, 2023 at the Congruity Presbyterian Church, Pastor Cliff Foster led the morning devotions and Rev. Donna Havrisko presented the 2023-2024 *Horizons* Bible Study "Sacred Encounters" in her usual wonderful way. The Executive Director of the Union Mission of Latrobe, Dan Carney, gave an interesting and in-depth presentation of the Mission's purpose. The Congruity PW served a delicious breakfast and lunch. The 26 attendees donated \$127 and a large quantity of men's underwear for the clients of Union Mission. Many thanks to Phyllis Frye and the Congruity PW for their hospitality.

Tis the Season for Honorary Life Memberships

Spring is a busy time for PW's Honorary Life Membership office so plan accordingly. To order this recognition (that funds leadership development), visit presbyterianwomen.org/HLM to download an order form or complete the paperwork and payment online at presbyterianwomen.org/give by selecting "Honorary Life Memberships" and then choosing \$95 (silver) or \$250 (gold). Questions? Contact Jung Ju Winner, 844/PW-PCUSA, option 5.





Presbyterian Women
in the
Synod of the Trinity
2024 Mission Project

*San Juan La Laguna
Guatemala*

MISSION AND VISION

Founded in 2016, the Casa Materna project provides necessary medical services and education for low-resource mothers and babies in the rural region of San Juan La Laguna and nearby towns in Guatemala. Our goal is that all women in this region have an affordable, accessible and safe place to give birth to their babies and, consequently, reduce fetal and maternal mortality in the region.

- **Maternal mortality rate (MMR)** is the annual number of female deaths per 100,000 live births from any cause related to or aggravated by pregnancy or its management(excluding accidental or incidental causes). Guatemala's MMR(96) is **THREE** times higher than the U.S. maternal mortality rate(21) and more than **THIRTY** times higher than Sweden(5), Italy(5), Japan(4), and Australia(3).

- **Worldwide causes of Maternal death** are Hemorrhage 27%, Sepsis 24%, Eclampsia 20%, Indirect Causes 11%, Obstructed Labor 10%, and Anemia 8%. Indigenous Guatemalan women are more than twice as likely to die from pregnancy related deaths than non-indigenous women. Up to 9/10 maternal deaths are preventable with timely access to evidence-based maternal care.

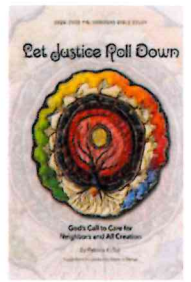
Casa Materna staff is trained to respond to emergencies which arise during labor and birth, and to provide transport to the closest hospital when needed. We serve the community 24 HOURS/DAY, 7 DAYS/WEEK with a team of all female qualified midwives, educators and nurses who speak the local Mayan dialect and use culturally preferred practices. We are supported by a US Doctor and Physicians Assistant.

All of the local Redstone PW's are encouraged to support this very worthy mission project. Help us to make a generous donation to this organization this fall.

PW Synod has changed the collection deadline for Mission Projects to **December 1, 2024**. **Redstone PW will request that you bring your donation to the Fall Gathering on Nov.2, 2024 at Poke Run PC., Apollo** or mail it to Sue Blank, Treasurer, 4068 Bushy Run Rd., Jeannette, PA 15644. Make **checks payable to Redstone PW**, write Synod Mission on memo line.



The 2024–2025 *Horizons* Bible Study
**Let Justice Roll Down:
 God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation**



Patricia K. Tull, author

We are called to care for neighbors and God's creation with all our hearts, with particular care for society's least powerful members who are disproportionately impacted by unjust systems. Patricia K. Tull is A. B. Rhodes Professor Emerita of Old Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary and the author of several books. She lives in Jeffersonville, Indiana, and works for Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light.

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 \$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



REMINDERS FOR LEADERS

- ❖ Now is the time to plan for the **Birthday Offering**. Details of the offering recipients are in the **January/February Horizons**. *Information on ordering promotional materials can be found on the last page of this Newsletter.*
- ❖ The **Love Gift** will be dedicated at the **Spring Retreat** on Tuesday, **May 7, 2024**. This Offering allows PW to encourage the youth or other groups of our Presbytery to become involved in mission programs.
- ❖ **Mission Yearbook of Prayer** is no longer published in a book. Daily readings are available at www.pcusa.org.
- ❖ **Calendar of Events**
 - **March 10:** **Synod Dues for 2024 are \$22/group** (Send all 3 of these payments to Sue Blank
Contingent Fund is \$1.50/ member 4068 Bushy Run Road, Jeannette, PA 15644.)
1st quarterly payment of Pledge
 - **May 7:** **PW of Redstone Spring Retreat at Pine Springs Camp** (See Flyer, page 3)
 - **Aug. 8-11** **Churchwide PW Gathering at St. Louis.** (See Registration info, page 7)

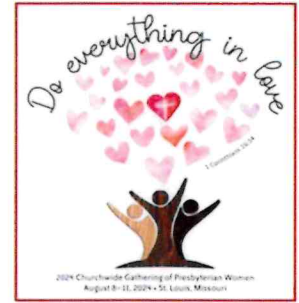


Love Gift Offering

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. 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. 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.

All About the 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering



Register Today!

Registration is now open for [PW's 2024 PW Churchwide Gathering](#), which will be held **August 8–11 in St. Louis, Missouri**. Join hundreds of Presbyterian women in learning about, rejoicing in and embodying what it means to “Do Everything in Love,” as guided by 1 Corinthians 16:13–14.

Three registration options are available—something for everyone!

Full registrant, \$450

It's the event you've been waiting years to attend—an in-person Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women. Come to St. Louis for this triennial event that begins with dinner on Thursday, August 8 and ends with morning worship on Sunday, August 11. A full registration is your ticket to community, learning and worship with PW siblings from across the country, workshops from inspiring leaders, shopping, a program book, three provided meals, book groups, opportunities for spiritual development and the incomparable energy of more than 1,000 PWs gathering to “do everything in love.”

Single-day registrant (one-day limit), \$150

Enjoy the day's plenary sessions, provided meal of the day and select from the day's programming options. Attend up to three workshops (Friday or Saturday only), receive a program book, visit the exhibit hall, bookstore and silent auction, and/or join a book group!

Online registrant, \$150

Slide up to your computer (or grab your smart phone!) to take in the large-group plenary sessions, worship and select workshops.

If you register by May 1, you'll receive a special edition Gathering pin and will have priority to purchase a Gathering tote bag. Visit presbyterianwomen.org/gathering to register and access the *Gathering Guide*, which provides details about registration options, day-to-day activities and more!

Gathering Guide

Registration for the Gathering is entirely online this year! As you fill out the online registration, you'll find work-shop descriptions, synod and celebration lunch choices and all possible options for your Gathering participation.

Need to browse your options before starting the online registration? Use the downloadable *Gathering Guide*! The PDF includes a Gathering schedule, profiles of plenary leaders, a chart of workshops in each time slot, workshop descriptions and overviews of volunteer opportunities.

You'll also find details on hotel reservations, transportation in St. Louis, childcare requests and more. A supplement to the *Gathering Guide* that offers step-by-step registration support (as well as username and password support) is also available. Download the *Gathering Guide* and the Registration/Technical Support Guide at presbyterianwomen.org/cwg-guide.

2024 Birthday Offering OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

"So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones."
In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. —Genesis 50:21

Since 1922, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering has helped fund mission projects that improve lives.



This year's Birthday Offering recipients are:

Advocates for Community Choice
dba Bethel Hills
Villa 5 Apartments and Recreation Area
Marthasville, Missouri
Bethelhills.org
\$123,500

Shawnee Presbyterian Church Shawnee Presby. Church
Café Ginkgo
Louisville, Kentucky
facebook.com/louisvilleshawneepresbyterian
\$150,000

Resources to Promote and Receive the 2024 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women

Essentials

The 2024 Birthday Offering promotional booklet, which is mailed to PW leaders, includes grant recipient summaries; dedication service; promotional resource flier; instructions for giving. Available as a download in English, Korean and Spanish as well! Item PWR24451; free.

The 11" x 17" 2024 Birthday 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 many (or as few) as needed! Item PWR24453; free.

2024 Birthday Offering promotional flier (8 1/2" x 11") Download only; item PWR24457.

Receiving the Offering

Birthday Offering group giving envelopes, traditionally used in PW groups and congregations, are available in packs of 25; item PWR12501; 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 gifts as well as an area for credit card information. Available in packs of 10; item PWR20456; free.

2024 Birthday Offering bulletin insert — Download only; item PWR24450; presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.

2024 Birthday Offering bulletin cover (8 1/2" x 11") — Download only; item PWR24452; presbyterianwomen.org/birthday.

2024 Birthday Offering promotional video (English, Spanish and Korean) — Available on PW's YouTube channel: youtube.com/presbyterianwomen.

Two Ways to Order

• Call 800/533-4371, Monday–Friday, 10 am–5 pm . • Or visit us online at presbyterianwomen.org/shop (type "Birthday Offering" in the search box).

Note: Prices do not include shipping and handling (based on weight of order; \$6.25 minimum). International orders and orders to Puerto Rico will incur additional shipping charges. There are no shipping charges for free/promotional offering materials.

Have a PW leadership change? If so, contact patricia.longfellow@pcusa.org (or call 844/797-2872, ext. 8015) so she can ensure that PW resources are mailed to the "proper" PW!