



# The Redstone Link Newsletter

Presbyterian Women  
of  
Redstone Presbytery

August 2025

“Jesus Christ is the same today and yesterday and forever.” Hebrews 13:8 (ESV)

## Happy Fall Presbyterian Women

As I write this letter to you, the weather is changing and you can smell fall in the air. Soon the leaves will be displayed in all their colorful glory, with God painting them one by one. Students will be starting a new school year, from nursery school to college and university. Change is definitely in the air, while sometimes we wish time would stand still. Churches will be celebrating the fall start of Sunday School and life moves on to its next season.

Yet in Hebrews 13:8 (ESV) – “Jesus Christ is the same today and yesterday and forever.” Jesus is always with us through the changing of seasons, not only in fall, winter, spring and summer, but through our changing seasons as we grow another year older. Yet, he never changes. He walks beside us through all of our changes, from the happiest of moments to those that cause us the deepest despair. His hand is always on our shoulder, leading us through our joys and sorrows. We don’t have to look forward to him coming, since he is already there walking beside us.

For Presbyterian Women, we have many things to look forward to in the future. You will see an invitation in this newsletter to our upcoming Fall Gathering at Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence. Please consider attending. It is always a wonderful time to come together with our fellow sisters and celebrate the many things Presbyterian Women do and support. We worship, pray, celebrate our missions, and we will learn more about our newest Bible study, *“Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ.”* Rev. Donna Havrisko will once again give us her insightful summary of this study. Plus, we always enjoy a wonderful lunch.

For Presbyterian Women of the Synod, we are starting our planning for next year’s Summer Gathering. Save the dates of July 16-18, 2026. I cannot stress enough the blessings you will receive by attending this gathering of Presbyterian Women. This will be my second gathering and I am very excited to invite all of you to attend with me, especially since it is at the Antiochian Village Conference Center in Ligonier, PA. Please consider going and coming along on this blessed adventure.

So, as we move through our seasons as Presbyterian Women, I know we are here for one another, with prayers, support, a friendly smile and hug, and even tears of compassion and comfort. We know we are loved as we continue to do the work of Presbyterian Women to nurture faith, support mission, work for justice and peace, build community and develop leaders. May God bless each and everyone of you as we keep moving through our seasons of life.

Faithfully,  
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 Court, N. Huntingdon, PA 15642 or email: [lhblick@gmail.com](mailto:lhblick@gmail.com). Deadline for the next Newsletter is January 31, 2026.

### Birthdays Offering

Total given by the local churches of Redstone PW in 2025 is \$727 compared to last year's \$911. 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  
New Florence, Bethel  
Presbyterian Church  
on Saturday,  
November 1, 2025  
9:00 – 1:00 w/lunch**



### Officers of the 2025-2026 Coordinating Team of Redstone Presbyterian Women

Moderator: Patricia Hart- North Huntingdon, New Hope

Vice-Moderator:

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

Communications Coordinator: Linda Blick- West Newton UP

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

Mission Coordinator: Karol Elmore

Study & Action Co-Coord: Karol Elmore – Greensburg, First PC

Study & Action Co-Coord: Rev. Sylvia Carlson, Redstone Presbytery

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”

This office will need to be filled by April 2026 for the Coordinating Team of PW in Redstone Presbytery.

#### • Vice-Moderator

Please contact Patricia Hart, Moderator, at [patriciaannhart777@gmail.com](mailto:patriciaannhart777@gmail.com) or (724) 309-2456 if you can serve!

### SAVE THE DATES!

### PW SYNOD OF THE TRINITY SUMMER GATHERING

**July 16-18, 2026**

Antiochian Village Conference Center  
104 Church Camp Trail, Bolivar, PA (near Ligonier PA)

*The Churchwide Gathering will be held at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, August 5–8, 2027.*

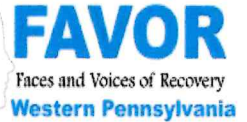


**Redstone Presbyterian Women Fall Gathering**  
**Saturday, November 1, 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m., includes lunch**  
**Bethel Presbyterian Church**  
**1354 Bethel Cemetery Rd, New Florence, PA**



**Introduction to the 2025-2026 Horizons Bible Study**  
***Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ*, by Rhashell Hunter**  
 with the Rev. Donna Havrisko, Honorably Retired

The Mission Project for the Fall Gathering is **FAVOR of Western PA**. **FAVOR** stands for *Faces and Voices of Recovery*. Kim Botteicher, the director and founder of the program will be the speaker.  
 favorwesternpa.org Checks should be written to **FAVOR of PA**.



**Your contributions toward the 2025 Synod PW Mission Project will be received.**



***The Well – a Project of The Welcome Church*** The Well, located in the Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania, currently refers to the whole community of support for women who are experiencing homelessness, which is a part of The Welcome Church. In 2016, The Welcome Church founded an overnight shelter for women called “The Well”, when it became apparent that there were few places where women felt safe going inside for the night.  
**Your checks should be made out to Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Redstone.**

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

**Make check payable to: PW of Redstone Presbytery; please mail your registration by *Friday, October 25 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

2025 Redstone PW Fall Gathering  
 Bethel Presbyterian Church, New Florence, PA

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

Number of persons attending: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_ amount enclosed

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

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

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

Please use the back if necessary

**Directions to Bethel Presbyterian Church**  
**1354 Bethel Cemetery Rd, New Florence, PA 15944**  
**(724) 676-5000**



**From Greensburg and points west:**

Route 119 north to Route 22 East.  
Turn right on Bethel Cemetery Road. (about 8 miles east of Blairsville)  
In .2 miles, bear left at Y to stay on Bethel Cemetery Road. Travel .5 miles to church

**From Johnstown:**

Route 403 north to 711 and 56 north to west on Route 22  
Left on Bethel Cemetery Road. In .2 miles, bear left at y to stay on Bethel Cemetery Road. Travel .5 miles to church

**From points south:**

Route 119 north to Route 22 East (about 8 miles east of Blairsville)  
Turn right on Bethel Cemetery Road. (about 8 miles east of Blairsville)  
In .2 miles, bear left at Y to stay on Bethel Cemetery Road. Travel .5 miles to church

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**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. It also supports a group attending the Youth Triennium. This year **\$1000** was given to facilitate the youth from our presbytery participating in the Triennium in July.

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 for the Love gift is **\$159**. Any member of Redstone Presbytery, who is going on a mission trip, individually or with a group, may apply for funding. The application is on **page 6** of this newsletter. It can also 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.

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

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

**MISSION PROJECT for FALL GATHERING at BETHEL, NEW FLORENCE**

The Host Church has selected **FAVOR of Western PA** for the mission project. **FAVOR** stands for Faces and Voices of Recovery. Located in Bolivar, PA, this is a Recovery Community Organization. Kim Botteicher, the director and founder of the program will speak at the Gathering. More information here: [favorwesternpa.org](http://favorwesternpa.org). Please support this mission. Checks should be written to **FAVOR of PA**



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Pine Springs Camp was thrilled with the large donation of S'mores ingredients at the PW Retreat on May 6, 2025. Many thanks to all who made this important part of camp a highlight for the campers!

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**TO ALL LOCAL MISSION COORDINATORS**

**The Mission Packet for 2025 is available on the PW link of the Redstone Presbytery website.** 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 and we will print it in the Newsletter. WE REALLY WANT TO HEAR ABOUT ALL YOUR GOOD WORKS!!!!**

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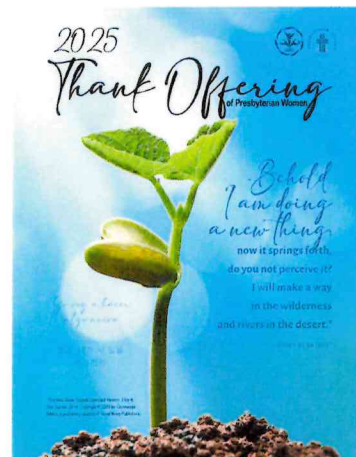
**2025 THANK OFFERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

"Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
 I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."  
 —Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)\*

**Resources to promote the Thank Offering**

The 2025 Thank Offering Promotional Booklet is mailed to PW leaders and includes grant recipient summaries; a dedication service; a poster/placemat; and a promotional resource flier. Item PWR24475. Also available as a download in English, Korean, and Spanish at [presbyterianwomen.org/thank](http://presbyterianwomen.org/thank). **Free**

**Two ways to order:** Call 800-533-4371,  
 Monday-Friday, 10 am – 5 pm  
 OR Shop online at [presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://presbyterianwomen.org/shop)  
 (type "Thank Offering in the search box or search by item number.)



LOVE GIFT OFFERING APPLICATION  
FOR MISSION TRIPS OR YOUTH TRIENNIUM GROUP TRAVEL  
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF REDSTONE PRESBYTERY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Event and Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe the event that you plan to participate in:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is the projected cost of this event? Please itemize the cost.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list other sources of funding that have been requested or received:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Application endorsed by: \_\_\_\_\_

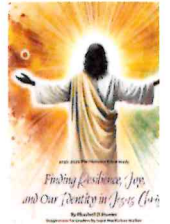
Pastor or Clerk of Session

\_\_\_\_\_ Application Received    \_\_\_\_\_ Grant Awarded    \_\_\_\_\_ Acknowledgment Sent

*Send application to the Moderator of Presbyterian Women*



The 2025–2026 *Horizons* Bible Study is  
***Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ***  
 by Rhashell D. Hunter



The Rev. Dr. Rhashell Hunter has taught at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary since 2022. For fourteen years, she served as the director of Racial Equity & Women’s Intercultural Ministries, which is in covenant relationship with Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc., through the General Assembly.

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*The Bible Study is available for \$14.00. To place your order for Bible studies and other PW materials, call Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS), 800/533-4371 or order online at [presbyterianwomen.org/shop](http://presbyterianwomen.org/shop). Prices do not include shipping and handling (10% of order total; \$6.25 minimum).*



*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. (**After January 2026, the subscription will include only 4 issues.**) Subscriptions must be received by April 1 to receive that year’s Bible Study. Call 866/802-3635 or visit [www.presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/subscribe)

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**REMINDERS FOR LEADERS**

- ❖ Mission Goal Sheet for 2026. 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 for ordering free promotional materials can be found on page 5 of this Newsletter.**
- ❖ **Important Dates**
  - **Sept. 10:** 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly payment of Pledge due
  - **Nov. 1:** Fall Gathering at Bethel PC, New Florence
  - **Nov. 15:** Synod Mission Project 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.

**SPRING RETREAT REVIEW**

The Redstone PW Spring Retreat at Pine Springs was held on May 6, 2025. Moderator Patricia Hart welcomed the 41 women attending. The morning devotions were presented by Patricia Hart, Rev. Sylvia Carlson and Rev. Susan Blank. Susan Nesti installed the CT officers for the next year. Robin Jennings, an elder from the First Presbyterian Church in Greensburg, as the Retreat Leader, presented a very interesting and thought-provoking program on Changing our Mindset. Working in discussion groups, building items from a limited choice of materials and challenges for introspection gave us moments to reflect on. A delicious lunch was served by Ellie and Greg Davis, Camp Managers. The mission focus was the ingredients for S’mores for the campers this summer. Many thanks for the large quantity donated.



*The Well - a Project of The Welcome Church*

*2025 PW Synod Mission Project*



The Well, located in the Philadelphia area of Pennsylvania, currently refers to the whole community of support for women who are experiencing homelessness, which is a part of The Welcome Church.

In 2016, The Welcome Church founded an overnight shelter for women called The Well, when it became apparent that there were few places where women felt safe going inside for the night. Grounded in the relationships that The Welcome Church had with the women, The Well had two amazing successes in the first two winter seasons: the women, who had been labeled “shelter resistant,” were consistently coming in, and after the second season, most moved into permanent housing. The Welcome Church developed a relationship with Bethesda Project, and the City of Philadelphia began paying Bethesda Project to cover staffing for The Well, as a year-round shelter, in November 2017.

Unfortunately, the building and congregation (Christ’s Presbyterian Church) housing The Well had to close in 2024, and the City of Philadelphia, in the midst of budget cuts, stopped funding for this shelter. But The Welcome Church maintains strong relationships with the women! The pastors meet and check in with women who are on the streets with few resources. The Welcome Church holds two women’s group meetings each month. The women keep in touch with one another.

The Welcome Church continues to look for a new location for the shelter, for which the City will provide funding as a winter shelter this year. We have redefined The Well as the whole community of women, which gathers in different places, both inside and outside, offering mutual support.

For more information check out information on The Welcome Church website: <https://www.thewelcomechurch.org/getting-to-know-us>

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.

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PW Synod has changed the collection deadline for Mission Projects to **December 1, 2025**. **Redstone PW will request that you bring your donation to the Fall Gathering on Nov.1, 2025 at Bethel PC., New Florence** 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.