

The Redstone Link Newsletter

Presbyterian Women
of
Redstone Presbytery

March 2026

In Philippians 4:6-7, we read, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Dear Fellow Presbyterian Women,

Anxiety is a word I have heard many times this past year. The word can cause deep distress, sleepless nights, physical pain, and so much more. It has a tendency to grab hold of us and does not want to let us go. We wrestle with it, and try to put it out of our minds, yet it seems to hang on and on, affecting everything we do.

We read in Philippians to not be anxious about anything. And we ask God, Are you sure? Don't you know what is happening in the world, in my family, in my church, in my community? Don't you know how hard this is? Yet, God asks us to present everything to him through prayer and supplication and thanksgiving for every situation we are going through. He wants us to let him be in charge and to let him take care of us. He offers us that peace that is beyond all understanding through Jesus Christ.

This is so comforting, but as women, we forget and think we can handle everything on our own. The answer is so simple – Draw Near to Him! He gives us peace that is not of this world. It only comes from him. We just need to accept it and place all our love and hope and trust in him.

As Presbyterian Women, we can share this with all those we come in contact with. We are not meant to be alone and keep God, and all the things he does for us, as a big secret. We are here for each other and we can share the peace He gives us. We are to be together in all things. So, how do we do this? We do it very well with bible studies, gatherings, mission projects and the joy of being in each other's company. But there is so much more.

I strongly encourage you to put your anxiety to rest and let God handle it. Come along for the ride with us this summer to the Synod Retreat where we will “Find Joy in the Journey” at Antiochian Village. The committee is working really hard to bring you an amazing retreat filled with Joy. In this newsletter, you will find all the details. Come join us for this joy-filled retreat!

Sincerely 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, 2026**.

Thank Offering

Total given by the local churches of Redstone PW in November 2025 is **\$1395.00** 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.syntrinity.org – PW in the Synod of the Trinity website. (Click on Resources for PW link)
www.presbyterianwomen.org Churchwide Presbyterian Women's

CALLING WOMEN TO SERVE

The office needed to be filled by **May 2026** 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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- **Redstone PW Spring Retreat** at Pine Springs Camp, **May 12, 2026**.
- **PW Synod/Retreat/ Gathering** at Antiochian Village, **July 16-18, 2026**
- **Redstone PW Fall Gathering** Saturday, **November 7, 2026** at West Newton UPC.



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

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 2026-2027 Directory/2025 Year-End Reports and Mission Packet will be distributed at the Spring Retreat at Pine Springs on Tuesday, May 12.

2027 PW Churchwide Gathering will be at the Galt House in Louisville, Kentucky, August 5–8, 2027. Gathering registration includes three meals and all programming. Early registration will be \$450 and standard will be \$475 (deadlines to be announced soon). The Gathering is themed "A cord of three strands is not readily broken" based on Ecclesiastes 4:12.



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



Redstone Presbyterian Women Spring Retreat Tuesday, May 12, 2026

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

9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:30-1:00 Program for the day and a satisfying lunch

“Reclaiming who we are during challenging times” with the Rev. Robyn Weaver.
What are the questions we are living with these days? What are we most proud of as we reflect on reclaiming our purposes? What is Christ calling us to consider for our walk in Christ, and to live out daily? What strengths do we bring to our work as members of the Body of Christ? We remember that we are Children of God and we are not alone! Come, let us encourage one another. Walks and time in God’s creation will be included. Icebreakers, music, prayer, and working together on a project will add to our reclaiming work.



After working in Campus Ministry for seven years, Robyn graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary while working with street kids in East Liberty. She met her husband Lon at seminary. They have co-pastored for much of their working lives, most recently serving in Duluth, MN for the past 25 years, the last 12 years she served as lead pastor while he taught at a private school. Lon stepped into the Interim Executive Presbyter Position in Redstone Presbytery a year ago. They moved here, glad to be closer to their daughter and her husband who live in Pittsburgh. Their son and family live in Connecticut. Robyn is currently living into retirement, claiming her first sabbatical, and discovering Greensburg.



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

The 2026-2027 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 24th

To: Rev. Susan Blank, PW Treasurer,

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

2026 Redstone PW Spring Retreat

Church Name: _____

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

Contact Person: _____ Phone _____

List of attendees: _____

Use back if needed

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 12th**. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate, please drop off your donations at the Presbytery Office by May 7th.



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, 2026.

City Mission-Living Stones, Inc. holds a food drive during the months of March and April each year. All proceeds raised through this drive are critical to purchasing food supplies for our emergency shelters and help us to meet the needs of the homeless men, women, and children we serve. Our annual food drive allows us to raise money that goes directly towards developing an adequate food supply for our emergency shelters and families in crisis.

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

Fall Gathering Review

On Saturday, November 1, 2025 at the Bethel Presbyterian Church, in New Florence. Rev. Sylvia Carlson led the morning devotions and Rev. Donna Havrisko presented the 2025-2026 *Horizons* Bible Study "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ" in her very interesting way. Kim Botteicher, director and founder of FAVOR (Faces And Voices Of Recovery) of Western PA, explained the purpose of the organization. This group, supported by the Bethel PW, was the Mission Focus of the Gathering. The 35 attendees contributed \$400 to this mission. The Bethel PW served a delicious breakfast and lunch. Many thanks to Barb Poglein, Moderator and the Bethel PW for their hospitality.



Synod of the Trinity PW Mission Project 2026

Mulanje Mission College of Nursing and Midwifery (MMCNM), a member of the Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM), is owned by the Church of Central African Presbyterian (CCAP), Blantyre Synod. It was established in 1930 by Scottish Missionaries.



Our one time giving will provide the resources needed to purchase critical equipment for the current skills laboratory to ensure proper training. It allows students to gain hands – on experience in a simulated clinical environment.

The skills laboratory is a replica of the hospital where skills demonstration takes place, and students take time to perfect their nursing and midwifery skills before they are allocated to the hospitals.

The current skills laboratory equipment required by standards includes mannequins that students would use for various skills practice, such as wound dressing, bed bathing, feeding, cannulation, oxygenation, resuscitation, a pregnant mannequin for antenatal, labor delivery, and postpartum skills. A mannequin for neonatal care is also available.

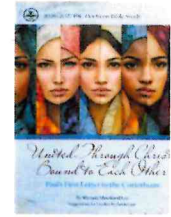
Mortality rates in Sub – Saharan Africa are recently estimated at Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of 381 per 100,000 live births. The most common causes of these maternal deaths are preventable and are attributed to inequalities in access to quality health services. According to the World Bank report (2022), 82.02% of people in Malawi live in rural areas where access to quality health care is a challenge. <https://mbf.org/ccap-mulanje-college-of-health-sciences/>

All 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's collection deadline for Mission Projects is **December 1, 2026**. **Redstone PW will request that you bring your donation to the Fall Gathering on Nov.7, 2026 at West Newton UPC** 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 2026–2027 *Horizons* Bible Study
United Through Christ, Bound to Each Other:
Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians



Rhonda Mawhood Lee, author

Paul wrote at a time when Christians expected Jesus' imminent return; he challenged his friends to be ready when that day came. Two thousand years later, the church is still waiting.
The Rev. Dr. Rhonda Mawhood Lee is an Episcopal priest, writer, and spiritual director. Rhonda has written for Horizons magazine and authored Seek and You Will Find: Discovering a Practice of Prayer (Forward Movement, 2021), and Suicide and the Communion of Saints (Eerdmans, 2025).

The Bible Study is available for \$14.00. To place your order for Bible studies and other PW materials, call Presbyterian Distribution Service (PDS), 800/524-2612 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 **four** 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 below.*
- ❖ The **Love Gift** will be dedicated at the **Spring Retreat** on Tuesday, **May 12, 2026**. 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 2026 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 6:** PW of Redstone Spring Retreat at **Pine Springs Camp** (See Flyer, page 3)
 - **July 16-18** PW Synod Retreat/Gathering at **Antiochian Village**. (See Registration info, page 7)

2026 PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN *Birthday Offering*

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."—Romans 15:13

Support the Birthday Offering so that organizations like the ones selected for 2026 will continue to celebrate in God's abounding hope and power in the world. This year's recipients are:

City Mission of Findlay, Women and Children's Crisis Shelter, Findlay, Ohio findlaymission.org. \$125,000
Haywood Christian Ministry, Rural Food Assistance Project, Waynesville, North Carolina. hcmnc.org. \$125,000

The 2026 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 PWR26451; free.

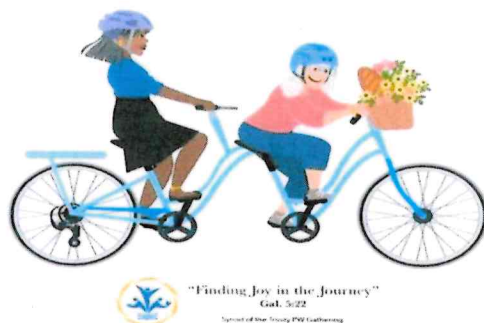
Two Ways to Order. • Call 800/533-4371, Monday–Friday, 10 am–5 pm est.
 • Or shop online at presbyterianwomen.org/shop (type "Birthday Offering" in the search box).

2026 PW Summer Retreat/Gathering

July 16 – 18, 2026

Antiochian Village Retreat & Conference Center, Ligonier, PA

"Finding Joy in the Journey" (Gal. 5:22)



Registration & Check In begins Thursday 3:00 pm – Dinner at 5:00 pm – Opening Plenary & Keynote 6:30 pm
Gathering/Retreat ends with lunch on Saturday

**Guest speaker—CeCe Armstrong, co-moderator 2024-2026
PC(USA) General Assembly**

Join us for Lively Worship, Special Workshops, Great Food, Inspirational Small-Group Time, Spirituality Walk, Toe-tapping music, Silent Auction, Games, Crafts, Mission Opportunities and More!!

Registration:

**Triple Occupancy Room - \$225 per person Double Occupancy Room - \$275 per person
Single Occupancy Room - \$350 per person**



Registration Includes: 2 Nights hotel style lodging, 6 meals (2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners), plus snacks & beverages, conference folder, materials, Joy Room activities, PW resources; Choice of 2 workshop sessions on Friday; Worship service w/ Communion on Friday evening with Rev. CeCe Armstrong (PCUSA co-moderator 2024-2026); Optional Early morning Yoga or Prayer Circle activities (before breakfast); Evening relaxation and community activities, including Friday Movie night ("Up!") w/popcorn



Hosted by The Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity
Registration Form available at: <https://www.syntrinity.org/synod-pw/> or
Contact Registrar at: jamesalcinda@gmail.com or 330-532-5747



RISE AGAINST HUNGER MEAL PACKAGING EVENT

Saturday, OCTOBER 3, 2026

COMMUNITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1640 Keystone Park Road, New Alexandria, PA 15670

Goal---\$7500

Needed-- Donations of money

Volunteers to pack meals

Volunteers to unload truck and set up room for event

A few volunteers that can lift bags of about #40

Volunteers who want to help with possible fundraisers

1) Hunger Walk at Keystone State Park—June 14, 2026

Volunteers will get sponsors for the walk

Half the money will go to Westmoreland Food Bank

Half the money will go to Rise Against Hunger

2) Town-wide Yard Sale in New Alexandria-June 20, 2026

Volunteers will sort items donated the week before the sale and work the day of the sale

Donations will be accepted the week of the sale, will accept any donations except TVs, computers, large furniture and clothes

Contact Person—Judy Koontz 724-668-2843 or judykoontz@windstream.net