



# SUNRISE

Presbyterian Women



Presbyterian Woman Shenandoah

Darlene Mason, Moderator

<http://shenpres.org/presbyterian-women/>

December 2020

Pat Armstrong, Editor

## A Moderators view

### December 2020

As we approach the Holidays, it is with a very different view and idea of how things are going to be. The spontaneous hugging and smiles and a Merry Christmas will be hard to do and see 6 feet apart and behind a mask. We have hope in the fact that a vaccine has been developed and there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel.

The supreme court in New York has ruled that churches, Mosques and Christian there can meet with as many persons as want to attend. I believe that as responsible Christians we need to be aware of the dangers of large gatherings and the consequences of such behavior.

We held a CT meeting in November via Zoom. It is not the best mode of getting together as not everyone has reliable connections or computers but still it was a joy to see other members and hear of their survival methods and ways of keeping in touch and still doing their mission work.

The CT has quite a few openings for committees especially in the north and south of Shenandoah. If you are led to Volunteer, you can call me or any member of the CT.

Peace Love and Joy to each of you and your families and may God Bless our Country.

*Three things will last forever – faith, hope, and love – and the Greatest of these is love.*

*1 Corinthians 13:13*

In Christ's Service

Darlene Mason, Moderator

## Worship in a pandemic world: no singing, no problem

*Presbyterians Today October 21, 2020*

**Give your worship a boost by discovering other ways to engage the senses and lift your spirits**

*By Anne Russ | Presbyterians Today*



If you are gathering for a masked and socially distant in-person worship during the Advent season, it's obviously going to be very different. Advent without singing? Without our responsive liturgies? Will it even feel like Advent?

Even though we are called the "frozen chosen" for good reason, this season is an excellent time to introduce some movement into worship. Consider adopting a different prayer posture for each Sunday of Advent. Worship leaders can choose postures that best suit their particular congregation and context, but here are some suggestions:

**Hope** Hands stretched up above the head

and eyes to the sky in hopeful anticipation.

**Peace** Arms reaching out in front with palms up-stretched, ready to receive God's peace.

**Love** Arms crossed over one's chest.

**Joy** Jazz hands! Or maybe just a single fist jabbed up at the sky, à la "The Breakfast Club."

### **Smells and bells**

While I'm not a fan of incense (because of allergies), now is a really good time to take a note from our high church Anglican friends and trot out some smells and bells. Consider using a chime from your organ or a single handbell to replace a traditionally sung response. Relate the number of chimes to something specific to your theme or your congregation. Do a survey of your congregation to discover their top five holiday smells, and then have those scents welcome people as they come in the door. Baking bread, mulled cider, peppermint and even a freshly cut fir tree are smells that are easy to replicate and shouldn't bother even super-sensitive noses. Consider different ways sounds and smells might be incorporated in places and spaces that used to be occupied by singing and/or speaking.

*Anne Russ is an ordained Presbyterian pastor currently residing in New York City. She runs an online faith community at [doubtingbeliever.com](http://doubtingbeliever.com) and recently launched a podcast, Bible Stories for Big Kids.*

### **An Advent Call to Worship**

*by Anne Russ*

We enter Advent ready to receive Your Word,  
For this season does not call for speaking or shouting or singing.

It is a season of listening.

Word of God, speak.

Speak to our grief, our loneliness and our uncertainty.

Speak to us of the hope and peace that are in short supply.

Speak to us of the love and faith that will sustain us in the weeks and months to come.

We stand ready to hear.

Instead of seeking to be heard,

Word of God, speak.

## **NEWS FROM THIRD PRESBYTERIAN STAUNTON**

Third Presbyterian was scheduled to start bible study on the 17th but in the meantime two people tested positive for the virus so we are quarantining for 2 weeks.. We are doing a Salvation Army family for Christmas. We are also doing Food Baskets for the needy. We provide the Turkey and a gift certificate where they can purchase the additional food stuff.

We have done support and appreciation gift bags for the teachers and students attending Beverly Manor School.

SHARED BY Darlene Mason

### **FIVE CPC WOMEN PRESENTED HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Sunday, November 1 was a special day at the Collierstown Presbyterian Church as five women in the congregation were celebrated and honored for the way they have reflected Christ in their lives and demonstrated the qualities of humility, compassion, forgiveness, service, and leadership in building an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women within the church family. They were given the distinction of Honorary Life Member of the Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Their commitment to Christ and the mission of the church was recognized and they were thanked for their faithful service.

Each woman received a framed certificate of Honorary Life Membership and the Honorary Life Membership pin from PW Moderator Frances Ruley. Those present to receive these gifts were Gatha Reynolds Hall, Hilda Reynolds Morris, and Louise Brenneman Tardy. The recipients unable to be present due to health issues were Mary Moore Jarvis and Nellie Hotinger Leech.

It was noted that all five of the Honorees are members of the C & F Circle, one of the two Bible study groups of the Collierstown Presbyterian Women. These women and others in their group have met monthly for many years to read their

their Bibles, study and discuss the scripture, and pray over it. When Christians spend time in God's Word they are changed and become a new creation. The evidence of that is truly reflected in the lives of the five women of faith that were honored. **PICTURE ON PAGE 5**

The Collierstown PW is busy helping "The Pike", a pandemic learning pod, begin operation as an outreach ministry of Collierstown Presbyterian Church on December 2. The learning pod is designed to provide a safe learning environment that is easily accessible and affordable for the community's children in grades K-6. The Pike will be staffed by a teacher and an assistant and will meet from 8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m. on Wednesday through Friday. It has the goal of assisting and supporting students who are now learning virtually in a caring Christian environment. CPC PW is providing supplies and equipment for The Pike and hopes to serve as a resource offering volunteers and other programming for the pod's operation and witness .

Collierstown PW is reaching out with cards and holiday greetings to residents in assisted living and nursing homes in Rockbridge County and Lexington. The project's goal is for all residents to receive Christmas greetings during the holidays when families are unable to gather with their loved ones.

The Rockbridge Area Community Services Board contacted the Collierstown PW in early November in need of donors willing to be a "Santa to A Senior" for approximately 40 clients. These individuals have needs for clothing, personal hygiene items, small appliances, and other items that will improve the quality of life and the ability to live independently. The Presbyterian Women have secured sponsors or donors for all and look forward to making this special time of the year more comfortable for each recipient.

As Christmas draws nearer PW members are making extra cookies and holiday goodies that will be packaged and taken by the church's children and youth as they Christmas Carol in the community. Projects that were once done in the church's kitchen with many gathered in one location are still being done but in a different way. We are thinking and working differently but our outreach and the message of the good news is still being proclaimed! "Be not afraid; for behold,

I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord! (Luke 2:10-11 RSV)

*Merry Christmas from members of the Collierstown PW!*

*Deborah P. McCormick, PW Communications Coordinator*

## HAPPENINGS AT MASSANUTTEN PRESBYTERIAN

WE WORSHIPPED ONLINE AND MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION PARTICIPATED IN THE SERVICE: WATER POURERS, WORSHIP LEADERS, LEADING PRAYER OF CONFESION AND OTHER PRAYERS.

This Sunday NOV. 8 at MPC

Our online Sunday Worship Service will be available at 9:00 am. You will find the link to the online service in our Sunday email, on our Facebook page and website:

[www.massanuttenchurch.org](http://www.massanuttenchurch.org). We also invite you to view a selection of past online worship services now featured on our webMini Kick-Off Event for Children and Youth

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WE HAVE A NEW YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAM DIRECTOR.

Sunday, November 22nd at 2pm

Families with children and youth of all ages are invited to participate in a Car Scavenger Hunt! Come meet the new Children and Youth Program Director, Hannah Altman, and have fun with your family as we send you off on a short adventure.

We will all meet in the church parking lot at 2pm. All you need is your vehicle, your family, and a smart phone to take pictures with. There will be some prizes! Please wear masks for interaction in the parking lot.

Get in touch with Hannah with any questions: [haltman@massanettachurch.org](mailto:haltman@massanettachurch.org)

## Salvation Army - Angel Tree Program

We need your help in assisting the Salvation Army with the Angel Tree program. This year we are asking you to provide a monetary gift to this project.

Gifts may be made online through the [church's website](#) or by sending a check to the church **by November 30th**. Your donations to this program will provide gifts for children and seniors in our community.

## Mission and Service

MPC Mission and Service is responding to a request from South River Elementary School to provide some support and encouragement to its staff during these challenging times.

We are working with Mt Horeb church, our partner in the *Blessings in a Bag* program at South River. We are going to provide a gift bag or special item once a month alternating between Horeb and MPC. This week MPC packed goody bags that included a "YOU ARE LOVED" card and have distributed these to the school's staff.

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Mini Kick-Off Event for Children and Youth  
Our mini kick-off event for families with children and youth was so much fun this past Sunday! Everyone got the chance to meet each other from a safe distance in the parking lot before going off on an exciting car scavenger hunt. Each family was given a list of items to find in the neighborhood, then take a pic and text them to Hannah. We had 10 families participate in the car scavenger hunt! It was a close competition, the top three families completed the scavenger hunt within seconds of each other!

In first place we had the Cross family, second place the Weve family, and third place the Cale family. All ten families won a small Christmas ornament made with olive wood from Bethlehem. It was such a fun afternoon and Hannah is so thankful to all the families who came out to play!

Our next families with children and youth event will be on Dec. 20th from 7-9pm. We will have a Christmas bonfire with s'mores and Christmas music in the gravel parking lot behind the church. Families can come and go when it is convenient

for them and will be asked to wear masks when near others. More info to come!

## Advent & Christmas at MPC

Advent is a season of preparing and waiting for Jesus – it begins this Sunday, November 29th. Our theme this year reflects both our need for the light of Christ, and our call to be the light of Christ for others.

As we move toward the end of 2020, we are mindful of how many ways we have confronted dark and hard things this year: the pandemic, racial strife and a divisive election have contributed to the weight we all carry. In the coming weeks we will move through stories foretelling and anticipating the birth of Jesus. All of them lift up God's promise to shed light in dark places.

### Worship in Advent

Each Sunday at 9:00 am remote worship will be delivered by email and will include lighting of the Advent wreath, which you are invited to join using the devotional provided in the Advent kits; you may also follow along in the service liturgy.

Christmas Eve As in the past worship will be provided on Christmas Eve to hear the story of Jesus' birth and share the light of Christ. For 2020, this will take the shape of a remote service in partnership with our Sunnyside neighbors that will be available at 4:30 pm.

## First Wednesdays in December

Join us for First Wednesday, at 6 pm on December 2nd. We'll enjoy some fellowship, receive a blessing for our respective evening meal (note: Pizza is our 'traditional' December menu), and share some favorite Christmas memories or traditions with one another. Patti is sharing her Mom's Gingerbread Men recipe.

Click to join Zoom meeting on Wed, December 2 at 6pm!

\*New users may need Passcode: 334907

Poinsettias will be available this year as always at a cost of \$8.50 per plant. They will be present in our remote service and remembrances and memorials will be shared on December 20th. Plants will be available to be picked up to enjoy in your home on December 21 & 22 between 9:00 and noon.





### RECEIVING LIFE MEMBERSHIP

## IVANHOE AND WARDENSVILL SHARE

The churches at Ivanhoe and Wardensville are planning a quieter Christmas celebration this year. We are doing Advent, and focusing on the nativity rather than the huge Christmas tree we usually put up and programs we usually have. I just want to compliment you, Pat, and the women from the PW CT who have adapted to the new computer zoom format for meetings. I will admit I have been reluctant in accepting this new normal, but am coming around gradually. After having my daughter Kelly and sister Ramona help me use their computers that have cameras, for the zoom meetings we have had so far, I have finally ordered a WEB CAM C310 for my computer with helpful instruction from my brother Ray. Hopefully, I will be able to join the team from my

own computer for the next meeting. It is good to be reminded that God is smarter than any computer or piece of technical equipment in existence, and we need each other to help us navigate through challenges... It is hoped that everyone will stay well, and have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas season. In the midst of the darkness caused by the Pandemic, the birth of Jesus Christ shines even brighter this year, giving us new hope.

Blessings,  
Connie Wood

## HOW TRUE

Man's way leads to a hopeless end - God's way leads to an endless hope.

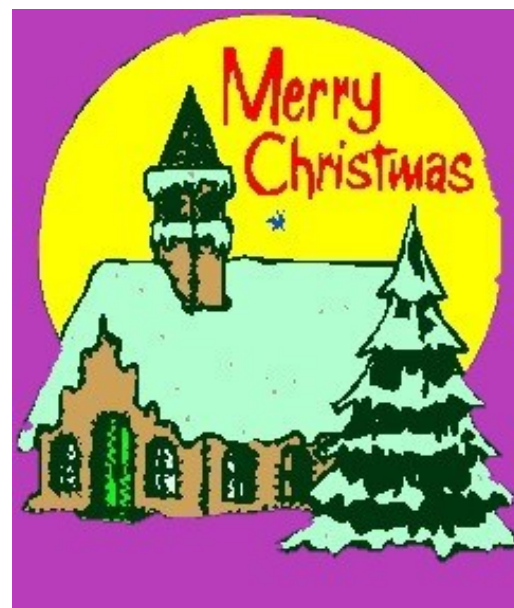
The Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It is a good chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

## BUNKER HILL PRESBYTERIAN SERVICES

Bunker Hill is back to just a prerecorded virtual service available on church website, Facebook and YouTube at this time.

Take care  
Vickana



THIS WAS IN THE PRESBYTERIAN  
OUTLOOK: SHARED BY PAT ARMSTRONG

## The past, present, and future are female — Christian education at home

November 11, 2020 by Joelle Brummit-Yale

Last Saturday I shed a healthy dose of tears. In part, they were tears of relief that the agonizing election cycle was finally coming to an end. More than that, though, they were tears of joy — from seeing a woman of color elected as vice president. Not to mention, a record number of women were elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. And it only took a little more than two centuries for it to happen!

God has always called people who identify as women to leadership. We know this, but we don't always name it and celebrate it. Recent elections along with one of the Revised Common Lectionary readings for this week give us an opportunity to focus on the female leaders who serve as the hands and feet of Christ.

Begin the time with your children by asking them to list people they think are good leaders. Then ask them to explain what makes these people good leaders. If your children are younger, you may want to offer an example of a good leader in their lives (for example: a teacher, a caregiver, a coach, a pastor) and ask them what they like best about that person. Call attention to the women your children list. If they did not include any women in their list, encourage them to add some and explore what leadership traits these people exhibit. Note that God does not call people of only one gender to lead. Because all people are

God's children, God calls people of every gender to be leaders.



Deborah summoned Barak the leader of the Israelite and said. 'The Lord, the God of Israel, has commanded, "Go and march to Mount Tabor with ten thousand men from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his many troops to the river Kishon, and I will give you victory over him.'"

Prepare to share the Scripture reading with your children. While the lectionary reading for this Sunday includes only verses 1-7 of Judges 4, you'll likely want to read the entire chapter to your children so that they can hear the entire arc of Deborah's story. In fact, a children's Bible that includes a retelling of Judges 4 is best for young children because it simplifies the complexities of the time period. "[Family Story Bible](#)" by Ralph Milton and "[Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible](#)" by Elizabeth Caldwell and Carol Wehrheim include excellent child-friendly versions of the text.

Before you begin reading, explain that the reading comes from the Old Testament book of Judges. This part of the Bible tells us about the history of the Israelites once they are living in the Promised Land. Point out that these judges are a bit different than the judges we have in courtrooms today. Biblical judges were people who handled legal matters for the people of Israel, but they were also leaders (usually military) who helped draw the people back to God when they strayed. When the people started worshipping other gods or forgot the promises God made to them, they would lose the land they were living on and would need someone to lead them as they worked to regain it. Judges describes the experiences of many of these judges. Only one was a woman and her name was Deborah. The story we'll read today is about the period of time when Deborah led God's people.

**Barak and Deborah celebrated by singing praise to God**

(Judges 5)





Read aloud Judges 4 (or a children's Bible retelling of the text). After reading, ask your children what they noticed about the way Deborah led God's people. How did she help them make decisions? Did she lead alone or did she partner with other leaders? How did God help her lead? Draw your children's attention to the fact that God chose Deborah as the person to deliver messages to the people, including Barak, the leader of the army. Deborah and Barak work together to reclaim the Promised Land for the people. Then, ask your children to reflect on what Deborah's leadership can teach us about how we can be leaders. Encourage them to notice her willingness to listen to God and share God's words, as well as her collaboration with Barak.

Continue exploring the idea of women as leaders with your children by creating a visual representation of past and present leaders whose work has influenced your family. Begin by gathering the supplies you'll need to create this piece of art: paper, glue, scissors and crayons or markers. Ask your child to draw a large cloud on one of the pieces of paper. It should be large enough to fill the paper. Explain that this cloud represents the "cloud of witnesses" — people who are no longer with us who helped create God's kingdom on earth during their lifetimes. While there are many different people in this "cloud of witnesses," ask your children to focus on the women. Together brainstorm a list of people who are part of this cloud. Encourage your children to not just think of well-known female leaders, but also those within their own communities and families. They may also want to include women from the Bible who served as leaders. Then, have your children write the names of these women or draw pictures of them in the cloud. As they add each woman, talk about the ways she did God's work. When they have filled the cloud with names, ask your children to cut it out using the scissors and to glue it at the top of another, larger sheet of paper.

Repeat this activity focusing on women who are alive today and are helping to build God's kingdom. Have your children write their names or draw pictures of them in the space underneath the cloud. When the piece is completed, hang it somewhere in your home where it can serve as a reminder of the many women God calls to lead

and nurture us. You may want to periodically select one or more of the women to pray for during your family's prayer time.

**JOELLE BRUMMIT-YALE** is the director of children's and youth ministries at Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. When not at the church, she can usually be found at home with her son and husband caring for their many animals and developing their family homestead



## Shenandoah Presbytery Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team November 14, 2020 zoom meeting

Darlene Mason	Connie Wood	Karen Stevens	Pam Snyder
Vickana Norton	Donna Parker abs.	Joyce Anderson abs.	Ruth Williams
Punker Robertson	Harriet Kopp	Paula Osborne	Patricia Wichael
Laura Bostic abs.			

The Presbyterian Women of the Shenandoah Presbytery in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (PWSP) met via zoom, 10:00am on Saturday, November 14, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by moderator Darlene Mason and in the absence of Joyce Anderson, Darlene read the devotional from Jesus is Calling journal.

The PW pledge was recited by those gathered.

August meeting minutes were approved.

Vickana Norton, Secretary report – missed joining in the call with everyone in August. Thank you to Paula for standing in as secretary for the call and getting great notes from the meeting. Appreciation to Karen for getting the bylaws around to all on CT for approval. The updated bylaws will be featured on the back page of the directory and posted on the Presbytery website under PW. The directory is a little later coming out this year, but it has been a different kind of year for churches and circles I imagine and information has been coming in slower.

Karen Stevens - Treasurers report submitted and approved – current balance as of today: \$8887.17

After the date cutoff for the report, there were checks received from Zetta and Elkton for the Thank offering. They will be on the next report and sent on to Pittsburgh. Karen makes deposits a couple of times a month.

### Treasurer's Report February 1, 2020 – November 3, 2020

FUND	Balance as of 2/01/2020	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance as of 11/03/2020
Operating Fund	\$8445.17	\$442.00	-0-	\$8887.17
Least Coin	0.00	\$814.81	\$814.81	-0-
Birthday Offering	0.00	\$4173.00	\$4173.00	-0-
Thank Offering	0.00	\$511.00	\$511.00	-0-
Mission Pledge/CW	0.00	\$142.00	\$142.00	-0-
Mission Pledge/Synod	0.00	\$607.13	\$607.13	-0-
Honorary Life Membership	0.00	\$95.00	\$95.00	-0-
Misc/Sunnyside Links	0.00	\$95.00	\$95.00	-0-
Misc/Living Waters/Other	0.00	-0-	-0-	-0-
Misc/Blankets	0.00	\$190.00	\$190.00	-0-
TOTALS	\$8445.17	\$7069.94	\$6627.94	\$8887.17



### **Vice Moderator – Connie Wood**

We will try to tentatively schedule a Spring Gathering for April 10, 2021. Plans for the theme and activity will be rolled over from the cancellation of this year. Connie will be talking with Clayton to get this date at Massanetta.

### **Horizons – Pam Snyder**

Pam highly suggests subscribing to Horizons magazine to take advantage of the great information and resources available for the bible study and the great articles and so many other things and promotions for PW.

Celebration giving: National office of PW has cut expenses and saving money by having zoom meetings. The opportunity is there with the Mission Pledge to support their work. Mission Pledge support money is suggested to go to our Presbytery treasurer (Karen Stevens) so the support and givings can be tracked from Shenandoah Presbytery. Our Mid-Atlantic Synod was and is one of the top contributors for both the Thank and Birthday offering.

Thank offering is looking for programs to support, you are encouraged to go online check out grant opportunities for your PW group or church endeavors.

### **Ruth Williams– Justice & Peace**

This is the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage. One hundred years ago, on August 18, 1920, the 19th amendment to the Constitution was finally ratified, declaring for the first time that women deserve all the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, including the right to vote. However, restrictive state and local laws still prevented women of color from voting. It took 45 more years before the Voting Rights Act was passed, August 6, 1965.

### **November is Native American Heritage Month**

13 World Kindness Day

15 Hunger and Homelessness Sunday

20 Universal Children's Day

25 International Day for Elimination of Violence against women

25 Wear Orange Day

### **December**

5 International Volunteer Day

10-14 National Gun Violence Prevention Weekend

### **January**

10-16 PW Action Days to end Human Trafficking

18-24 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Together in Service – Punker Robertson

Church World Service Blanket Fund collection and promotion is going on right now and CWS is encouraging support for this wonderful and important offering. Encourage churches to promote that program where they can to participate. The food pantry and garden harvest is busy in the Fairfield area serving 18-22 families each week. They receive donations and also buy the fruits and vegetables for this ministry. They plan to continue for the winter and come inside with it at that time. Operation Christmas Child is in full swing in some of the churches with the nationwide collection dates being in November.

### **Sunrise Editor – Pat Armstrong**

THE LAST SUNRISE WENT OUT AROUND 1ST OF OCT. AND THE NEXT ONE WILL BE DEC. 1. ALWAYS TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO GET CHURCHES TO SEND IN ARTICLES—EVEN A FEW LINES. Here are some suggestions and some things Sunrise would love to feature:

- WHAT ARE SOME WAYS YOUR CHURCHES ARE WORSHIPING DURING THE TIME OF COVID
- SHARE WAYS YOUR CHURCH IS REACHING TO THE COMMUNITY
- MISSION WORK
- THINGS FOR WHICH I AM THANKFUL
- THANKSGIVING PLANS THAT WILL PROBABLY BE DIFFERENT THIS YEAR
- WHAT HAVE I LEARNED FROM THE ISOLATION DURING COVID
- WHAT DOES PW MEAN TO ME

THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS TO SHARE. PASS THESE IDEAS ON TO OTHER CHURCHES. WE CAN LEARN SO MUCH FROM EACH OTHER.

AN EXAMPLE OF SHARING: WE HAVE BEEN MEETING AS A CIRCLE FOR ALL PW IN OUR CHURCH BY ZOOM AND GINA HOLDEN HAS BEEN DOING A WONDERFUL MONTHLY CIRCLE LESSON. MASSANUTTEN HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE FOOD PANTRY, AND BLESSINGS IN A BAG FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN. WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL SUN. WORSHIP SERVICES ON LAWN AS WELL AS A SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE EVERY SUNDAY.

PW HAS PRESENTED SO MANY TIMES OF FELLOWSHIP WITH MY SISTERS IN CHRIST.

OUR BIG FAMILY THANKSGIVING GATHERING IS BEING HELD AT CAMPGROUND SO WE WILL BE OUTDOORS—EXPECTING 30 OR MORE FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

SO MANY OTHER THINGS YOU CAN SHARE—PLEASE SEND IN SOMETHING AND GET WORD TO OTHER CHURCHES.

### **Pam Snyder - Leadership Coordinator Report**

2020 has definitely been an interesting year that has enabled us to look at different ways of getting things done effectively! I apologize to the leadership coordinators for not being more active with my communications these past months. For those of you in the roles of keeping the different congregations connected with PW in the Presbytery, I am sharing these recommendations with you again:

- Make phone calls to the congregational PW moderators just to see how they are doing. We know most are unable to meet in person. Ask them how they have handled “staying connected while distanced” these past months and if it has been effective. Let them know you value their feedback and that you are mainly calling to let them know you are thinking about them and that you want to stay connected during these challenging circumstances.
- Send Moderators a card and include something that will be uplifting and supportive for them in their PW leadership role. The “old fashioned” US mail still works and is frequently viewed as a more personal touch than an email. There are also PW note cards available on [www.presbyterianwomen.org](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org) under “resources” if you’d prefer it to be identified as a PW note.
- Share information about the current PW Bible Study, Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament, and the many resources available to work through this study in the coming year. (See my notes below for suggestions.) It is never too late to start the Bible Study.
- Pray for Presbyterian Women in our congregations, Presbytery, Synod and nationally!

The 2020-2021 PW/Horizons Bible Study, Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament, is our current Bible Study. Some of our Presbytery PW participated in the online 2-hr. introduction and review of this Bible Study which was provided by Lynn Miller through our staff in Louisville.

Multiple resources for circles and Bible leaders are available online at [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org) under Bible Study Products. This includes a DVD of the study, posters, etc. The Workshop for Leaders, written by Joyce MacKichan Walker, is a lesson plan for Bible leaders. It includes activities that explore and resources to support the 2020-2021 PW/Horizons Bible study, Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament, and is available at no charge.

Explore new and different ways to gather, even if virtually, to share this timely Bible Study with your PW. You could even purchase the DVD for your PW and share throughout the year if you are unable to meet in person or electronically. I have purchased all of the recommended books suggested to explore "lament."

I have participated on 2 webinars presented by PW, Inc. One was an in-depth review of the entire Bible Study and one presented music associated with our current Bible Study. I mentioned in our last PW CT call, and offer again, that I am most willing to facilitate an "online Zoom Bible Study" for anyone that might be interested. Please share this opportunity with your various PW Moderators. This is also available to other CT members. This is an alternative way for PW to fellowship, virtually, and study together. It can be adapted to once a month, 2 times a month, once a week, whatever works for the majority. To be most effective, it does require a computer or a smart phone to effectively participate via Zoom. I'm looking at starting in January. Please let me know if interested.

Nancy Meehan Yeo also presented an introduction to the PW Bible Study for PW in Shenandoah Presbytery via Zoom. It was a small group, but an interesting review of Into the Light. This is a recorded introduction and can still be viewed.

I will gladly assist anyone who is interested in looking for new and creative ways to participate in the upcoming Bible Study or to effectively fellowship as PW during the COVID pandemic. I'm here to help as we wade through these challenges.

The PW Churchwide Gathering is still scheduled for August 5-8, 2021 in St. Louis, Missouri. The Churchwide Coordinating Team will be voting in December to determine the viability of this event for 2021. I'll keep you posted!

The Commission on the status of Women. With NY cases of COVID rising back up, there may not be a meeting of the United Nations this spring in which to participate. Ryan has also left the committee recently for those familiar with him.

Always Pray is on the latest Horizon cover. There is a congregation mentioned in the latest Horizon magazine where the PW recognized all the female ministers in their church and the Presbytery. It has been over 50 years since the PCUSA first ordained female pastors.

As a member of the Search Committee – Harriet Kopp expressed an interest in trying the Historian position and it was suggested Vickana and Mary Campbell would be a good resource to help her out with that. The Search Committee is currently without a moderator and that is a needed area to fill.



## **Eastern Panhandle by Paula Osborne**

### **Berkeley Springs**

Berkeley Springs Presbyterian women are, "Trying to cope with the pandemic in order to meet and do what we are supposed to do." says Adrienne North the PW moderator. The church is worshipping in person and the PW circle is also. Adrienne will take up the Thank offering Nov. 15 Sunday. Today's meeting, November 14, 2020, they will be discussing Christmas baskets for the shut ins. Prayers are needed for Violet Fox a very active church and circle member who is in hospice care as of yesterday.

### **Bunker Hill**

Church members are worshipping outdoors under a pavilion. Those who don't attend the outside worship may join in worship by reading the sermon via email, or watch via FB live and YouTube. The Bible study group shared the DVD to finish the previous study. After a Bible study member is finished with the DVD it was passed on to another member. Like all of the churches during the pandemic, Bunker Hill is not having regular Sunday school.

### **Charles Town**

October 4 Charles Town started in person worship. Thirty-five started attending and as time has moved on the pandemic began to get worse in the area. Many members returned to listening to the sermons by zoom. The church organist is posting church music in the newsletter every Friday. One choir member sings one song. The churches FB page has a wonderful newsletter column where members may share their thoughts about the weeks Psalms or Proverbs scripture. Session members are calling shut ins on the phone to see how they are doing. Diane Mayhew who is one the stewardship committee says pledge cards have increased by practicing a concept of Ready... Set ... Go.... Get ready by praying. Ask the Lord for wisdom and guidance in your giving and service. Get Set! That involves preparation, budgeting and saving by taking account of what needs there are and then to Go! Give with a cheerful heart out of the desire to do God's will and work.

### **Gerrardstown**

Church members are attending worship by two ways, drive in and zoom. Zoom begins at 9:30 with 15 attendants and drive in church begins at 11:00 with 20 attendants. People come to the drive in from different churches because they want to experience being with other people instead of via zoom or FB. Sandra Sherrard says, "The Church offering is doing well with on line giving and mail in offerings. " Thursdays Pastor Karen Greenawalt is leading a coffee and conversation a Bible study on zoom and on Wednesdays Sandra leads a zoom prayer group in the morning. Their once a month Free Community Dinner Drive Through is doing very well. They usually get 100 people. They also deliver the dinners to church shut ins. Prayers are needed for Sandra she is having a second surgery on her wrist in Morgantown. She fell while gardening in August and broke her wrist and her hip.

### **Shepherdstown**

Elaine Hurd is leading the PW zoom lessons for November and December. So You Want to Talk About Race by Ljeoma Oluo. Other volunteers will teach throughout the year. The Thank offering will be taken up in November.

### **Tuscarora**

The church is worshipping out side at 9:00 and at 10:00 there is an online service. The PW circle is meeting by zoom the second Saturday of the month.

**Patricia Michael –  
Leadership Coordinator report Central Valley Mission Community D**

**Broadway: Joan Layman, Moderator**

The women have been meeting in the recreational center starting in September with four members present. The church remains online only. They find the study on Lamentations to be somewhat repetitive but exactly what is needed at this time.

They will have a yard sale on Saturday, 14th with the money going toward renovations at the church which includes putting in an elevator.

**Elkton: Sarah Smith, Moderator**

We have a strong attendance of 7 with a couple more to join. As a whole the circle feels the Bible study goes into very deep study. They have enjoyed the video with Lynn. She gives us some totally different perspectives on things. We are a sharing group of people. It's so helpful to me when the group has read the lesson for the month. We collected for the Thank Offering this month.

We have social distancing and wearing of masks at our meetings in our fellowship hall at church. We do not have prospects in a minister at this time.

**Mt. Olive: Sandra Wanger, Secretary:**

They are back in church on Sundays but no Sunday school. Church is divided as regulated and they have 50-60 each Sunday. They are meeting in the social hall. They have a roll of 300. Worship is broadcast on FB live. They have not started circle meetings yet. If something needs to be discussed, they have an email or phone meeting. Stacy Meyerhoeffer, minister, has a Wednesday night Bible study on facebook.

**Massanutten: Nancy Davis, Moderator (new)**

They do not have in person services as of yet. Coordinating team meets in person and they have a newsletter which is hand delivered to those residing at Sunnyside. This has been a challenge with the restrictions as to visiting but recently they have been allowed to place the newsletters in boxes at the different areas around campus. They include Bible study helps with the newsletter which Ellen Blöse does each month for them. They feel the Bible study is appropriate for the current times.

**Mossy Creek: Betty Reeves, Moderator**

We have begun church services inside during the latter part of October after having successful meetings on Sundays on the church lawn.... Our circles have not started meeting yet but plan to start Nov 17. We look forward to the Bible study which is right on target... would also like to report that \$435.23 was raised for Pennies for Massanetta.

**Circleville: attempted but no response.**

**Moderator's report – Darlene Mason**

I was able to attend 3 bible studies via Zoom. Two of these were led by Lynn Miller. She is so good. While I enjoyed them and there were many ladies on the live feed, I miss the comradely of physically being with others.

We are still missing quite a few committee leaders. I have talked to a few people but so far no one has felt led to assume a role. I hope we will soon be able to meet together and as long as we follow the Guidelines put forth by the CDC that is possible. We will need to find a meeting place as Sunnyside is not allowing outside visitors on premise for the foreseeable future.

We are in a very stressful and unusual period of time. I pray for guidance and discernment when dealing with others. We don't all see the same way but that does not make me right and you wrong or vice versa.

**Old business:**

Karen on members of CT position:

Mimi Moring is not able to continue on the CT at all any longer in any position capacity with the other responsibilities that she currently has going on for her at this time. Many thanks to Mimi for her many years on the CT in different capacities!

Laura Bostic has given her notice of resignation for E2 & E3 Highland Augusta Leadership Coordinator. Thank you to Laura for her service to the CT!

There are several positions open to be filled: Search Committee, Moderator Elect, Leadership Coordinators for Mountain Valley, Highland Augusta E1, Highland Augusta E2 & E3, and Maury River.

Karen has suggested that a task force be formed to take a look at PW going forward and the way that Leadership Coordinators can connect with the churches: Ruth Williams, Connie Wood and Paula Osborne are interested in helping in this endeavor along with Pam Snyder and Karen Stevens. Karen will coordinate a zoom meeting among those available to start on this endeavor right away.

Changes to bylaws: The CT and church responded to Karen's email after the August meeting. All responses to her have been in the affirmative. All those present on the call voted to adopt the bylaws as presented in March and August to churches, PW groups and CT. A copy will be posted to the Presbytery website under PW information and available in directory copies, as well as included with these notes.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

CWS has expressed a great need for the Health and School kits. For the CT members and their churches, we'd like to focus attention to that. Since Presbytery office is not open for drop off there, items can go to the drop off site in Weyers Cave, VA.

**HYGIENE KITS:** All items need to fit inside a one-gallon Ziploc type bag.

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb removed from the package
- One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package (either one is acceptable)
- One bath-size bar of soap in the original package
- One toothbrush in the original package
- Ten standard size Band-Aids

**SCHOOL KITS:**

- One pair of blunt scissors removed from the package (rounded tip, only)
- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter / 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from the package
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers (please remove pencils from the package)
- One box of 24 crayons (only 24)
- One 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid color or kid-friendly fabric, no logos, reusable shopping bags or backpacks)



February meeting is going to be zoom again. Details will be going out about the meeting. We agreed to have it the 1st or 2nd Saturday, exact date to be announced a couple weeks prior.

Darlene closed the meeting with thanks for all attending and their work and willingness to serve on the CT and prayer.

Submitted November 14, 2020  
Vickana Norton – Secretary

