



# SUNRISE



Presbyterian Women



Presbyterian Woman Shenandoah

November 2021

Darlene Mason, Moderator <http://shenpres.org/presbyterian-women/> Pat&Rich Armstrong, Editor

## A MODERATOR'S VIEW

It was a shock to hear of the passing of Judy Wenig of National Cap. Judy was assistant chair along with Peggy Sisson for the upcoming 2022 Summer Gathering. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and ladies of her Presbytery.

We mourn another passing of our good and faithful ladies, Sue Hottinger went to be with the Lord on September 29, 2021. Sue was moderator from 2012 – 2014 and was from the southern part of the Shenandoah Presbytery New Monmouth Presbyterian Church.

I attended the Synod of the Mid Atlantic meeting on Oct. 15-16 by way of Zoom. The new Moderator Nancy Long presided. Several items were brought to the group. Approval of the revised scholarship guidelines and \$100.00 support for each of the 3 YAV's (Youth Advocacy volunteers) working here and in other countries. A new banner was made but in the meantime the old one was located. Several fund-raising ideas were discussed. Book sale, online Bingo, Auction, and Tastefully Simple. Some of the people scheduled for the 2022 Summer Gathering are Susan Jackson Dowd, Kathy Reeves, Moderator of Church-wide and Rev. Jimmy Hawkins. June 9-12, 2022.

Please join me in prayer for peace and blessings to do all that God requires of us. He walks besides us in everything and will empower us to fulfill his will in each task set before us.

The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces Wonderful results.  
JAMES 5:16

In Christ's Service  
Darlene Mason, Moderator  
Shenandoah Presbytery

## VICE MODERATOR SHARES

One of my favorite scripture verses comes from Isaiah 49:15 . "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;"

In this age of "tattoo popularity", it is interesting and comforting to know God has our names engraved on the palms of His hands. Just think, our names are there on His nail-scarred hands, showing His sacrificial death and Resurrection was for ALL us. He loves us enough to have permanent tattoos of our names near His Heart. What a glorious promise.!

Enjoy this beautiful FALL WEATHER.

Blessings,  
Connie Wood, Vice-Moderator,  
Shenandoah Presbyterian Women

## Third Presbyterian Staunton Shares

Third Pres. held its annual picnic on August 28, 2021 . All food was provided. There were corn hole games, and Bingo. Terry Lafon set up his music. A great time was had by all.

The CORE group is exploring the feasibility of having Trunk or Treat for the community children. Last year it was canceled.

Two groups have asked to have meals served, so depending on the number we are determining if seating arrangements can be made in order to keep everyone safe.

We filled a barrel container with items for the Food Bank. We co-sponsor a mission with the Baptist Church where we collect food and join in making Sacs of Love. A bag is filled with food for the weekend and sent home with the student, to ensure no one goes hungry and has adequate food till they return to school on Monday.

Sponsored a Trunk or Treat afternoon. All kinds of candy was donated and tables were set up to pass to the children.

It would seem that we are slowly getting back into a more normal routine.

Shared by Darlene Mason

## **NEWS FROM COOK'S CREEK PRESBYTERIAN**

Cooks Creek Presbyterian Church members have remained active and faithful throughout the past many months of the Covid pandemic. Through technology, we were able to continue our weekly worship services and special committee meetings when we were not able to safely meet in person, and now we are blessed to be able to use the same technology to enhance our in person worship. We have stayed involved with our many mission projects such as Open Doors, and for the past six weeks we have enjoyed a church-wide adult Sunday School study on "Trusting the Bible: What We Believe About Scriptures" led by Pastor Seth Normington.

In September we held our annual church picnic at the West Rockingham Ruritan Park and had delicious barbeque chicken prepared by several of our members as well as yummy sides catered by a local vendor. On October 31, we are planning a Harvest Party immediately after worship with hot-off-the-grill hamburgers and hot dogs, hot apple cider, and lots of activities for all ages including a bouncy house. Everyone is encouraged to wear a costume or something that they would not normally wear to Sunday services.

At this time the women are not meeting for a formal Bible study but many are participating in online studies and other programs.

Even in these uncertain times, we at Cooks

Creek are working together to grow individually and as a group to further God's ministry in this area. We encourage and invite you to visit us some Sunday and share in our fellowship and activities. Our doors are open and the welcome mat is always out.

SHARED BY EVELYN TRAVIS

## **News from Massanutten Presbyterian Church**

We are delighted to have a new Co Pastor,,Keith Phillips. Keith comes to us from Kansas and has come in hitting the ground running getting involved in so many activities at church and in the community. We feel blessed to have him come in to work with us at Massanutten.

Families with young children who would be helped by space to move and play are welcome to visit the Gathering area outside the sanctuary. The worship service can be heard and viewed from that space and simple activities are available to engage children. We are now live streaming \*worship service at 10:30 or if you would like to watch it at a later time it will be on YouTube. Pastor Keith has been meeting in small groups with residents at Sunnyside retirement community giving them a chance to get to know our new co-pastor.

The worship service is live-streamed on YouTube. Please plan to visit the MPC website at 10:30 or after to join us for worship. The link will also be shared through MPC'S Facebook page. The Community Life Commission presented movie night on October 24th at. Everyone was invited to gather in the fellowship hall for popcorn and a movie. The movie was inside out a fun film about memory and emotion families were encouraged to bring a blanket and sit together. Chairs were available for those who wanted to set up off the floor. The church is providing bags of food to South River Elementary School for Children to take home to provide nourishment for the weekends .

Shared by Pat Armstrong

## Dear Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, Greetings from Wilmington, DE!

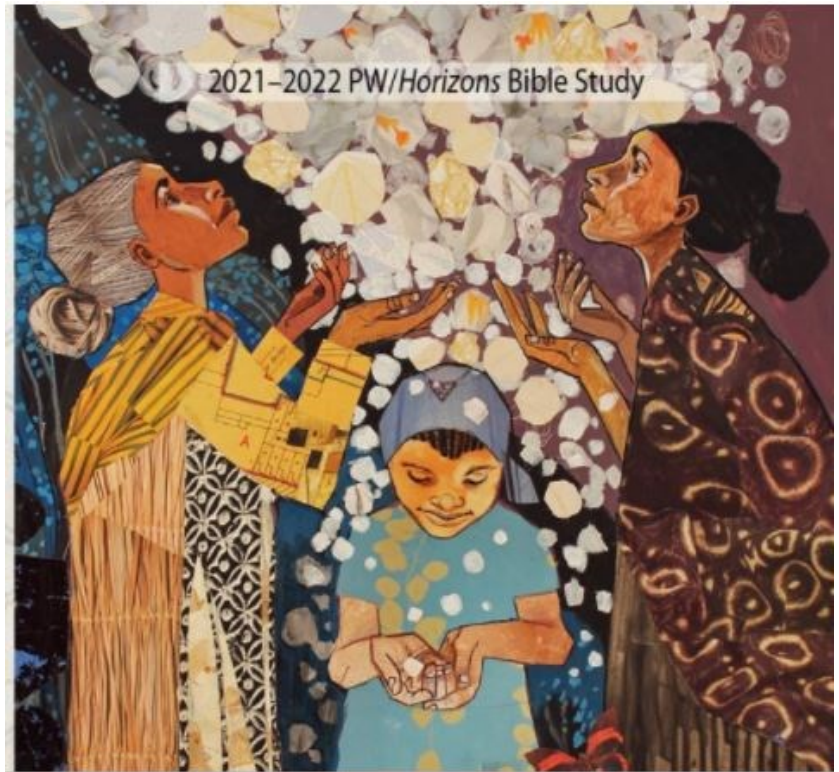
Usually, on one weekend in October, your PW Sisters on the Synod Coordinating Team are all traveling to Massanetta Springs to hold their annual Fall CT meeting. But as the COVID pandemic continues, we discerned that for the health and safety of each other, we would continue to meet virtually by zoom.

I'm writing to ask for prayers for the Coordinating Team as we meet to do the work of the PW in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. Please pray for the CT as they present reports, discuss the business of PW, encourage each other, and brainstorm about the who, what, where, when, and how of moving forward as PW in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic. May God bless our work.

A BIG Thank You to all of you faithful and passionate Presbyterian Women--living out our Purpose in so many countless and creative ways.

God's peace,

*Nancy Long*, PWS Moderator



### *What My Grandmother Taught Me*



My grandmother, Olive--Granny to me--was a small but fierce woman. I was the youngest of her grandchildren and I know she loved me. We watched Lawrence Welk together and played lots of Canasta, Pinochle, and Aggravation. She told me I had to chew my popcorn 40 times before I could swallow it. She took me to VBS at her Methodist Church. She gave me her love of gardening and of snapdragons and rhubarb. I loved my grandmother with all my heart, but she wasn't perfect and I recognized that, even as a young child. She was not always kind, and that unkindness extended to family members and people who didn't look like her. Seeing the fallout from such behavior, I knew I didn't want to be like that. I hope that I have embraced the good in my grandmother and learned a kinder way to be in the world. Oh! and she gave me her love of the color purple.

*~Nancy Long*, PWS Moderator

# What My Grandmother Taught Me

THANK YOU

*grandma*



My grandmother was a Baptist and believed that the church was first in all of our lives. She worked in the church as a Sunday School teacher, as a deaconess and in support of our neighborhoods. Family was extremely important to her and she always had us over for Sunday dinner. She cooked on a wood stove and the kitchen also smelled so very good and the food was excellent - fried chicken, mashed potatoes, beans and tomatoes from the garden and, of course, that apple pie from apples from the trees in the yard. As a family, we try to do some of those things with our nieces, nephews and great grands today. Unfortunately we can not get together on Sunday for that special meal, but at some holidays, we get together for that special meal. It is not the same without her, but her memory lingers on and saying your favorite bible verse before the meal is still a favorite of everyone. What wonderful and precious memories from a very special lady.

~ Helen Dean, Second Presbyterian, Roanoke, VA  
Presbytery of the Peaks

## What My Grandmother Taught Me



My grandmother, Frieda, was born in Germany. In 1900 she came to the U.S alone at the age of 19, knowing no English, but did have sponsors in Wilmington. I remember her as a fun Grandmom. I spent overnights on a bed so high I needed a stool to get up. We played Canasta and Parcheesi. I often begged her to bake rusk, a German bread. There was always a candy jar available. She was known around town as the "Avon Lady." She took in every stray animal that came by. Grandmom rarely spoke about her life in Germany. I only know that it was hard. She lost two sons as toddlers, and two more sons as adults. She grieved greatly, but persevered. She was feisty, strong, stubborn, trusting in the Lord, and always active. Still living in her own home at 92, she fell and broke her hip while dancing at a Senior Center, which led to her death. She never gave the skinny me advice, except to "put some meat on my bones." What I learned from her was a realization, more as an adult looking back, of what she overcame. While my life has been nothing like hers, I pray that as I age I can be as faithful and strong as she was.

~Phylis Wood, Pres. Church of the Covenant  
Wilmington, DE (New Castle Presbytery)

I hope that you are enjoying the new Horizons Bible Study. To complement our Bible Study, PW around the synod are writing a short story of what their grandmothers have taught them and sending them to me to post on Facebook. The first three are included here above in case you are not on Facebook.

Nancy Long, PWS Moderator

## COLLIERSTOWN SHARES

Robertson on Sunday, August 22. The church family was joined by community families whose children had been a part of The Pike, a pandemic learning pod housed at CPC during the '20-21 school year and by those who attended Camp Daniel, the church's summer camp held the four weeks of June for ages four through fourteen. A humorous skit/dialog by Peter and Jean Cook introduced the worship hour as friendships were renewed and hearts were inspired for worship in the beautiful outdoor setting. Many lingered on into the afternoon as games and swimming in the Lake Robertson pool were enjoyed by all.

The PW concluded its annual "School Bag Campaign" on Sunday, August 29. One hundred canvas tote bags filled with basic school supplies were returned to the church sanctuary filling the first pew and the floor below it. The Collierstown United Methodist Church joined with CPC PW preparing twenty-one of the school bags that were assembled. Special thanks to PW member Louise Tardy and CUMC member Amy Hayslette for making the sturdy and attractive canvas bags that were filled with supplies. On September 13 the bags were transported to the Brethern Disaster Ministries building in Weyers Cave to begin their journey to Church World Service, the agency that distributes the school kits to needy students in the United States and around the world. The monetary gifts that were given to the School Bag campaign were given to CWS to cover the costs of shipping the bags to the locations where they are most needed. Each bag was sent on its way with a prayer that the student who received it will come to know Jesus. Many thanks to our Collierstown United Methodist friends who helped make this PW project a church and community wide effort!



The PW's Annual Church Dinner Steering Committee met and decided on Thursday, September 9 not to hold the Annual Church Dinner in 2021 due to concerns related to increased numbers of cases of the COVID-19 virus and its variants. This year's dinner was to have been a "take out meal event" only. The decision came after much discussion and prayer. Since 1925 church members, neighbors, and friends from the area have enjoyed coming together on the first Saturday in November to enjoy dinners of country ham, roast turkey with all the trimmings, and fried oysters cooked on the church's wood stove. An array of home cooked vegetables, homemade bread, assorted slices of cake, and a warm hospitable welcome have added to each meal making it a delicious dining experience on a crisp autumn Saturday each year.

The Presbyterian Women would like to express their appreciation to all the CPC members, friends, and neighbors who have faithfully supported and enjoyed our Annual Church Dinner in the past. We look forward to welcoming you in 2022 with lots of delicious food, a Bazaar filled with crafts and baked goods, and the warmth of our hospitality.

The two Presbyterian Women Circles began in September the 2021-22 Horizons Bible study entitled "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" by Merryl Blair. There are approximately twenty-five women involved in this year's study between the two groups. Both Circles meet in person at the church. The Night Circle meets the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. for a light supper followed by the Bible study at 7:00 p.m. The C & F Circle gathers at 1:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday for the Bible Study followed by a hospitality time. During the height of the COVID-19 crisis the Night Circle began airing the monthly Bible

study on Facebook Live and has continued that practice. Those interested in being a part of the virtual study are invited to join the Night Circle on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. on the CPC Facebook page.

The ministerial leadership of Collierstown Presbyterian Church is now in transition as Rev. Kevin Channell accepted a call in late August to pastor Petersburg Presbyterian Church in Petersburg, WV. The CPC family celebrated with the Channels their new opportunity for ministry while extending the church family's best wishes at a reception following Rev. Channel's final sermon on September 26.

As the days have become crisper and leaves have turned shades of yellow, orange, and red, the Collierstown congregation has felt the Holy Spirit moving it forward with a renewed commitment to witness to each other and our community. Our leadership and those that have led worship have inspired us to be grounded in God's Word. We have felt a calling to care for each other and our neighbors. There is also a sense of expectancy and excitement as we wait on the Lord to direct our path. He alone is the source of our joy and our strength.

Submitted by: Debbie McCormick,  
PW Communications Coordinator

## THINGS FOR WHICH WE ARE THANKFUL

Marta Armstrong

1. Friends who hold you up and pray for you even and especially when you can't see God's vision.
2. Organizations of support for others especially during these pandemic times.
3. God's beautiful handiwork of creation, magnified by fall colors.

Darlene Mason

First and foremost I am thankful that Jesus Christ and God our father watches over me in all things.

Second I am thankful for my 4 children and 7 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.

Third I am thankful for friends.

CONNIE WOOD

I Thought I would go ahead and send you some of the responses to What I am Most Thankful For, while it is fresh on my mind. Several ladies from our **Ivanhoe PW** group and two gentlemen from our Sunday School wrote responses for us. Most of the answers began with God, Jesus Christ, Faith, and church, and then named good health, family, friends, food, nice weather, and being given a new start each day.

Shared by Pat Armstrong



## Shenandoah Presbytery Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team August 7, 2021 meeting

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

The Presbyterian Women of the Shenandoah Presbytery in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (PWSP) met on the Sunnyside campus at the Highlands in our usual meeting room for the first time in over a year, 10:00am on Saturday, August 7, 2021. Many thanks to Ruth Williams for making the meeting arrangements and to Darlene for the treat of homemade pizza.

The meeting was called to order by moderator Darlene Mason. Paula shared the devotional time and Karen read. Paula opened us with prayer and lighting of the Christ candle.

Guest visiting, Carroll Anderson, was welcomed and we were delighted to have her join us today.

The PW pledge was recited.

May meeting minutes were approved as previously distributed at that time without corrections or comment.

**Vickana Norton, Secretary** report – there has been minimal requests for a paper directory. If there is changes or corrections, please let me know asap. Please be sure to email the PDF of the directory to all your churches. Correction on Trinity during the meeting will be addressed. Thank you!

**Karen Stevens - Treasurers** report submitted and approved with correction. PDA donation will be disbursed as approved in February. Operating fund as of 5/8/21 \$8495.25 and 8/6/21 \$8695.25.

**Connie Wood – Vice Moderator** report as provided: I thought of what to write in my report for a long while, even re-reading the duties expected of a Vice-Moderator. It is difficult to write about all the usual duties and events that have not taken place. In the midst of the chaotic news that we wake up to on a daily basis, I was reminded this morning of the familiar and comforting verse from Psalm 46:10, “Be Still and Know that I Am God”. In that verse, we have the proof of God’s promises from the past, the assurance of His presence in the present and the hope of His guidance and wisdom for the future. I was delighted to hear about the new Director of Programs at Massanetta Springs, Colleen Earp, who will begin duties in mid-September, specializing in Camp and Retreat Youth and Adult Ministry. I am hoping she will be helpful in planning some new events for Presbyterian Women in the near future. Along that same thought, I had asked Associate General Presbyter, Nancy Meehan Yao, about the possibilities of having a women’s retreat at some point and she replied that given scheduling and health guidelines, it could be a possibility. In the meantime, we listen with our spiritual ears for God’s voice to direct us one step at a time.

**Pam Snyder – Horizons & Celebration Giving**

### **Horizons Representative Report**

August 2021

**2021-2022 PW Bible Study:** *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus*. Those who subscribe to *Horizons* received a copy of the upcoming Bible study along with this March/April 2021 issue of *Horizons*. This is another perk for subscribing to our *Horizons* magazine!

### **Special Horizons Discount Pricing!**

The triennial Churchwide Gathering of Presbyterian Women took place virtually on August 5, 2021. PW is offering a special Gathering opportunity to subscribe to *Horizons* for just \$19.95 for a one-year subscription. Take advantage of this \$5.00 discount for an annual subscription. It is a great time to give *Horizons* as a gift, purchase a subscription for your PW circle or to share in your church library. AND, you get a copy of the Bible Study with each subscription.

FYI, we have the following Bible Study themes to look forward in the coming years:

2021-22 study -*What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus* by author Merryl Blair.

2022-23 study – *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight* by author Carol Bechtel

2023-24 study - *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in the Gospel of Luke* by author Olive Mahabir.

### **Celebration Giving Representative Report**

August 2021

### **It’s time to start collecting for the PW Thank Offering!**

The Thank Offering provides much-needed financial assistance to 20 to 30 worthwhile programs each year. The recipients are always a mix of domestic and international projects, but all meet crucial needs. At least 40 percent of this offering funds health ministries, often helping the most marginalized members of God’s community. The remaining percentage supports new or expanded projects and small capital improvement projects. Learn about the projects funded this year at [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org) under the Giving and Grants tab.

Your gift to the Thank Offering helps fund real solutions in the areas of health, education, economic development and the needs of women and children. Thank Offering bulletin covers and promotional materials can also be ordered from [presbyterianwomen.org](http://presbyterianwomen.org).

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation groups should forward Thank Offering gifts to the PW in the Presbytery Treasurer.

Your PW in the Presbytery Treasurer for Shenandoah Presbytery is Karen Stevens and she can be reached at [steven-skr2005@yahoo.com](mailto:steven-skr2005@yahoo.com) or 540-430-1626. Your Thank Offering gifts should be mailed to **Karen Stevens, 251 Rosser Avenue, Waynesboro, VA 22980.**

You are also encouraged to continue to support the **PW Annual Fund** (*Mission Fund*) through your circle, congregation and Presbytery. Those gifts may also be submitted to Karen Stevens, Presbytery PW Treasurer.

*Pam Snyder*

Horizons and Celebration Giving Representative

**Ruth Williams– Justice & Peace** since the Horizons magazine didn't arrive prior to the meeting, Ruth gave an abbreviated report.

**Together in service – Punker**, report submitted via email prior to meeting

Hi dear ladies! I will not be able to attend the meeting tomorrow. I have company coming in and much to do. I am sorry to be missing seeing you all!

For missions:

We got an CWS Honor Certificate for Shenandoah Presbytery PW for CWS Blankets giving! I'll send it to you Ruth, if you want me to or just hang onto it.

The produce stand at Fairfield Church continues to serve about 20-24 families/week with fresh vegetables and fruits. It is self sustaining with donations. We purchase about \$140.00/ week and use whatever RARA shares with us. There is also a clothes closet.

Please let me know if you all want a mission display for The Big Event in Sept. If so, what would you want to have in it? I'll help put it together.

Blessings and love, Punker

**Sunrise Editor – Pat Armstrong** REPORT FOR AUGUST 2021 CT MEETING FROM SUNRISE EDITOR

TIME TO GET IN CHURCH HAPPENINGS FOR OCT. SUNRISE. WHAT HAS YOUR CHURCH BEEN DOING THIS SUMMER? VBS? CHURCH PICNICS? MUSIC PROGRAMS? PLEASE SHARE ONE OR MORE HAPPENINGS. IF WE COULD GET ARTICLES FROM AT LEAST 2 CHURCHES IN EACH MISSION COMMUNITY, WE WOULD HAVE 8 OR MORE CHURCHES TO SHARE. YOUR HELP IN MEETING THIS GOAL WOULD BE SO APPRECIATED. LET'S START WITH EACH CT MEMBER SENDING IN NEWS FROM HER CHURCH. PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR SO YOU WON'T FORGET—PLEASE HAVE ARTICLES IN BY SEPT 25.

PAT ARMSTRONG

SUNRISE EDITOR along with Rich Armstrong!

**Pam Snyder - Leadership Coordinator** Report for the Mission Community Coordinators

### **Leadership Coordinator Report August 2021**

As a reminder, the role of the newly adopted "Mission Community Coordinators" is to serve as the link between Presbyterian Women in the congregations and the PW Coordinating Team. My role as Leadership Coordinator is to stay connected with the Mission Community Coordinators and help strengthen the PW leaders network within Shenandoah Presbytery. For those of you in the roles of keeping the different congregations connected with PW in the Presbytery, here are a few recommendations to help you, including a few repeats:

#### Continue to connect with the congregational PW moderators

This can be a simple phone call to touch base or send a card or post card reminding them that you are a resource. This is especially important since many congregations have not held in-person PW and circle meetings during the pandemic. Also confirm the current PW leadership contact.

Share information about the current PW Bible Study, the new 2021-2022 Bible Study, *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus* by Meryll Blair. Note the Bible Study training available through Shenandoah Presbytery (this may have been recorded and still available:

**Presbyterian Women's Bible Study Overview  
Saturday August 21, 2021 10 - 11 am, via Zoom**

The author says this:

"Reading the first chapter of the Gospel of Matthew...invites us into the family stories that helped shape Jesus and that, therefore, shape us too....As we enter into these stories together, think about your own

family stories...Mathew has named these women [Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary] for a reason. Their stories will lead us into the Gospel, the Good News about Jesus Christ. My hope is, having explored their stories together, we will have a richer idea of what the good news is."

To register and receive the Zoom link, please email Donna [shenpres@shenpres.org](mailto:shenpres@shenpres.org).

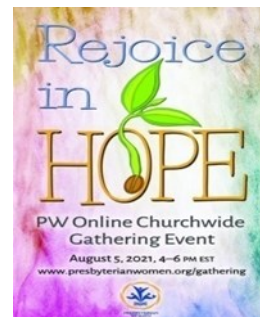
Share what some other PW groups are doing: When you talk with PW moderators, ask them what they have been doing these past months and share with others. Everyone is looking for a way to provide mission and ministry in their congregations and communities!

For Mission Community Coordinators: Consider hosting a Zoom meeting of all leaders in your Mission Community. I can assist, as can Presbytery staff, in helping deliver a Zoom meeting. Make it a social time, to get to know each and build relationships the first time. Keep it to an hour. Then perhaps build a targeted subject for another Zoom event and focus on recommendations from the Moderators/leaders to help meet their needs. If only 3-4 participate, it is progress. Don't give up!

Pray for Presbyterian Women in our congregations, Presbytery, Synod and nationally!

**2021 PW Churchwide Gathering Update!** The triennial Business Meeting will be held online August 4 and 5, 2021. During these sessions, PW, Inc. voting representatives will vote on leaders, business and a budget for the national organization. Darlene and Vickana were voting representatives from Shenandoah Presbytery.

August 5, 2021 from 4-6 pm. Go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering) to participate!



**2021 PW Churchwide Gathering Update!** The triennial Business Meeting will be held online August 4 and 5, 2021. During these sessions, PW, Inc. voting representatives will vote on leaders, business and a budget for the national organization. Darlene and Vickana were voting representatives from Shenandoah Presbytery.

August 5, 2021 from 4-6 pm. Go to [www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering) to participate!

**PW Newsbytes:** This resource is available to all PW. It was formerly called the PW Quarterly Mailing, and contains "news you can use" from PW Churchwide. This fully digital newsletter is available for printing for those who prefer paper vs. online reading. Share this resource with your congregation PW leaders!

I'm available to assist anyone who is interested in looking for new and creative ways to participate in the current Bible Study or to effectively fellowship as PW. There are many unique ways to effectively continue to do the work of Presbyterian Women. Note that my email address is now [pamsnyder1063@gmail.com](mailto:pamsnyder1063@gmail.com). I finally retired!

Blessings and peace to all,  
Pam Snyder, Leadership Coordinator

#### **Mission Community Coordinator report Paula Osborne – Eastern Panhandle and Potomac Highlands**

Eastern Panhandle churches are doing fairly well – Tuscarora Church has Bob Osborne filling the pulpit in August and they start new study in Sept. not using Horizons. Gerrardstown is active with a once a week bible study through zoom lead by Karen and it will be in person now. Charles Town pastor, John, has done a bible study by book and chapter of the Bible all through the pandemic on books of the bible and they will keep their zoom activities going. Hedgesville has weekly bible study and Karen has a strong outreach with the area homeless offering food and services. Falling Waters interim pastor, John McDonald, said they are getting together a PNC committee. In the Potomac Highland region, Jeanne at Romney shared the great news of their new minister and his wife and the wonderful things going on at their church with renewal and new membership. They are next focusing on building a PW group and at Paula's suggestion doing the Horizon bible study as a new thing.

Paula envisions FaceBook as a tool for all the churches because all of them seem to be on FB and she is thinking she will do a FaceBook group page for her churches.

**No report: Mountain and Central Valley - Donna Parker, Pam - Highland E3 or Karen - Maury River or for Highland Augusta 2 & 3 Joyce Anderson.**

## **Moderators Report**

I attended the 2021 Churchwide Triennial Business meeting and also the Gathering event and the installation of officers for the upcoming 3 years by way of Zoom. Since I did work on Wednesday, I did miss a little of the goings on but not items that held a vote.

On the agenda for Thursday was a recommendation to update language regarding people of color as well as the Hispanic community and consideration replacing the word "Kingdom" with "Kin-dom" as it appears in the PW pledge as well as other areas.

***The Oughts and the Shoulds: "I don't really want to but I feel I should". How often we hear this from people who appear to be able to determine their own conduct. Are you a victim of "the should"? Do you find yourself drawn into doing things you would rather not do? What can one do at such a point? First, it would be well to pause and consider: what is the "should" related to? Who or what is the force compelling me to do it, or to feel guilty for not doing it? Second, we need to question: is this compulsion in line with what God requires of me?***

**God has spelled out his requirements for us quite specifically. We are to:**

- 1. Fear him (reverence)**
- 2. Walk in all His ways**
- 3. Love and serve him with our whole heart, soul and mind.**

***It's worthy of noting that God's requirements for us are given for our good. Can we apply this test to the should and oughts that others impose upon us? What happens when we commit because we feel we have to, no matter how unwilling we are? Usually we feel tension, resentment and other negative emotions toward the person or the situation that has placed us under the "tyranny of the ought." This does not mean we should be irresponsible or careless regarding our duty toward others. We cannot fulfill God's requirements as stated without having right attitudes toward those around us. We need to analyze the should and oughts that tend to drive us. It was never God's intention that we be tyrannized but that we should experience his peace as we seek to meet his requirements for us.***

Something to think about the next time you are unreasonable compelled to do something because you feel you *should*.

Darlene Mason, Moderator

## **Old BUSINESS:**

Worship Resources position is still currently vacant and Donna will cover the November meeting and Punker the February meeting.

**Interim Chair – Karen Stevens SEARCH COMMITTEE** The Search committee Does NEED PEOPLE on it to fulfill open positions. Coming up in April we will need to fill moderator and vice-moderator positions. Who will stay on.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

November meeting – Invite Church Moderators – wait and see what the covid situation is as this time gets closer and consider having at the Resource Center located at Massanetta. This is TBD.

June 9<sup>th</sup> – June 12<sup>th</sup> Synod Summer Gathering 2022 we need to provide Assistant Hospitality under Linda Barnes and Resource Chair, which Nancy Long (current Moderator) will assist. Connie Woods will take the assistant hospitality position and Pam and Paula will help with Resources. Synod Summer Gathering is a great event and experience and we are ready to meet after 2 years of not having this event. October is the first planning meeting.

Pam shared that there will be a new capitol campaign for Massanetta called the Centennial Campaign. Massanetta is celebrating 100 years.

The meeting adjourned and Connie Wood offered us a closing prayer.

Submitted *Vickana Norton* – Secretary