



Presbyterian Woman Shenandoah January 2022
Darlene Mason, Moderator <a href="http://shenpres.org/presbyterian-women/">http://shenpres.org/presbyterian-women/</a> Pat&Rich Armstrong, Editor

#### MODERATORS REPORT

As we end 2021, there has been positive signs that things are looking better. Most churches are open with the addition of services being transmitted electronically. There is still a concern for the virus and the number of people that remain unvaccinated. I have heard it said that it may be 2 years before the virus and its mutations are anywhere under control so as the Bible says put on your breastplate of armor, remain faithful and God will see us through.

We have experienced many different thoughts, ideas and ways of doing things. There does not seem to be much compromising. Jesus says we are to love God and love others, no matter our differences. We are like the branches of a grapevine and Jesus is our vine. The branches depend on the vine to get all the nutrients and water so that they can grow and produce grapes. Just like the branches we need Jesus to live, grow and to be happy.

Here is food for thought: Never think that someone is better than you, And never think that yourself is better than anyone. Each of us has a path to follow and a lesson to learn.

Let us not give up meeting together, as some do, but let us encourage one another. Hebrews 10:25

In Christ's Service Darlene Mason, Moderator

#### **BEULAH and MONTEREY**

The PW of Beulah and Monterey continue to meet virtually each month. We have begun our study of What My Grandmothers Taught Me and are on Lesson #3. This study is intriguing.

Submitted by, Mary Lou Cox

#### **BUNKER HILL SHARES**

Bunker Hill has resumed Services inside in Nov. with everyone wearing masks and keeping each other safe, we have not resumed Sunday school or other programs outside of Sunday 10 a.m. worship. We look forward to getting some children's programs going again; it's important to get that active again. Our pastor, Reverend Ron Potter, retired as of December 31st and the worship committee is working hard to line up Pulpit Supply. We have people through February and even though continuity is good, we do look forward to hearing different messages each Sunday and will certainly seek positives during this transition wherever we can. Ron and Debbie will certainly be missed and we wish them well! We thank those that will be joining us and helping to fill our pulpit. We'd love to hear from interested parties if you'd like to join us for a Sunday! The Christmas Joy offering was well received with nearly \$700 at recent count. We still have members not coming to service either from getting out of the habit or concern due to covid and our counties increase in numbers again. We continue to offer services online and this is a great convenience. We do have much work to do in contacting parishioners and touching base with our church families.

SHARED BY VICKANA NORTON

PW Sunrise January 2022

### COLLIERSTOWN MOVES INTO A NEW YEAR!

The final months of 2021 were busy ones for the Collierstown PW and the church's congregation. The CPC Session began the process of moving forward to secure new ministerial leadership in early October following the resignation of Rev. Kevin Channell upon acceptance of a call to pastor Petersburg Presbyterian Church in Petersburg, WV in late September. Rev. Carl Pattison was hired as an interim minister in early December and will assume the interim leadership role on Sunday, January 2. Rev. Pattison graciously assisted in the annual Christmas Eve service making it possible for those in attendance to partake of the sacrament of Communion.

During the final two months of 2021 the Presbyterian Women invited the congregation to participate in Operation Christmas Child resulting in sixteen shoeboxes of gifts being sent to Samaritan's Purse for delivery to children around the world. The PW also supported the church's traditional Christmas activities. Those activities included giving every resident of the area's six nursing homes a personal Christmas greeting card and bookmark, preparing containers of homemade cookies for twenty homes visited by the church's Christmas carolers, and providing lunch following the church's Christmas program and worship service on Sunday, December 12.

The two Presbyterian Women Circles are using the 2021-22 Horizons Bible study entitled "What My Grandmothers Taught Me" by Merryl Blair meeting monthly at the church. The Night Circle also posts the monthly Bible study on Facebook Live on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. on the CPC Facebook page. There are twenty-five women involved in this year's study between the two groups.

January 16, 2022 is "Blanket Sunday" at Collierstown Presbyterian Church. For two decades the CPC Presbyterian Women have set aside a Sunday in January to encourage the church family to donate funds to purchase blankets for distribution by Church World Service. The cost of a blanket is \$10, a significant sum of money. Blankets are however a good investment in that they can be used to shelter a homeless family, serve

as a container for transporting and storing belongings, provide warmth when temperatures drop, and be used to cover an individual when clothing is inadequate. In the last four years the CPC PW has purchased 617 blankets by raising \$6170. We invite other PW members in the Presbytery to join us in extending God's love and provision in a tangible way to those in need of a blanket. Contributions can be mailed to the Collierstown Presbyterian Church, 31 Church Drive, Lexington, VA 24450. Be sure to designate your gift for the PW Blanket Sunday campaign.

As the days of winter become colder and we face a world that is more unpredictable, the Collierstown congregation is committed to sinking its roots deep in the truth of God's Word. We know the winds of adversity will not shake or uproot us if we are grounded in His truth. We have this directive from Colossians 1:23 - Continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel.

Submitted by: Debbie McCormick, PW Communications Coordinator

## News from Massanutten Presbyterian Church.

So much beautiful worship, music and Christmas activities during the Advent and Christmas season. We are now live streaming the worship at 10:30 and also recorded for YouTube to watch later. On Christmas Eve we had two wonderful worship Services one at 5 and one at 7 pm with candlelight service at both and the Lord's supper at the 7 service. On December 12th we had family movie night with the Grinch being shown and hot chocolate bar and popcorn bar. An angel tree was set up to choose tags to buy gifts for the Salvation Army. The handbell choir provided beautiful music during the Christmas season. The food pantry at Massanutten has been providing food for those in need. Also a meal program for weekends for children at an elementary school it's one of our mission activities. We wish everyone a Happy New Year full of God's blessings and joy.

SHARED BY PAT ARMSTRONG

#### **News from Third Pres. Staunton**

The ladies served a luncheon to the DAR on Dec. 4, 2021. The DAR ladies gave us a specific menu and also came in and set up the sitting arrangements. We served 28. They have already reserved Dec. 3, 2022 for the coming year.

On Dec. 19, 2021 we held a Christmas lunch after church. There were 40 people in attendance. Terry LaFon played Christmas Music. All the food was provided by the CORE group.

We adopted a father and his two children to Provide Christmas. We also made a sunshine basket for two ladies who are unable to attend services, and food baskets for the shut-ins along with gift certificates.

Submitted by Darlene Mason

#### CONNIE WOOD SHARES

"He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with Him." (Daniel 2:22)

Fear of the unknown is often more frightening than the truth of what we know. Meeting a new year is filled with a mixed package of emotions: excitement and anticipation; fear and uncertainty; yet the hopeful joy of starting again with a clean slate. We hope to erase mistakes and failures from the past year, while also creating new victories for the new one. It is a close parallel to starting a new school year when we were growing up. We began with squeaky clean new shoes, our best new outfit of clothes, , new books and pencils in a freshly cleaned desk in a spotless classroom, with new teachers, lessons to be learned, and a year stretching before us in hope. As God was with us in each day and experience of that year, so He will be with us in this new year.

Relying on our hope and faith, the Shenandoah Presbyterian Women plan to hold the annual Spring Gathering at Massanetta Springs, April 9, 2022. More details and registration forms will be sent in the near future. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Happy New Year in 2022!

Connie Wood, Vice-Moderator of Shenandoah Presbyterian Women

#### **FUNNIES FROM TH PULPIT**

In Church on Sunday morning, the preacher was standing up at the pulpit preaching a sermon. After speaking for about 10 minutes he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd throw it in the river!"

Then he talked some more and a little while later he said, "If I had all the wine in the world, I'd throw it in the river!"

After that statement, he kept ranting and raving until about 15 minutes later when he said, "If I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd throw it in the river!" Then he talked for a few more minutes and sat down. Then, the choir director stood up and with a sheepish smile on her face she said, "now will the congregation please stand and join us in singing hymn number 134, LET'S ALL

A preacher is reaching the end of his sermon. He tells the congregation:

"Now for next week, I need everyone to read Leviticus chapter 28. It ties into my sermon." A week passes. The preacher reached the pulpit and asked "How many of you read Leviticus chapter 28?" Everyone raised their hands. The preacher looked and said "Ladies and gentlemen, there is no 28th chapter to Leviticus. Now let me start my sermon on lying."



#### Staunton Second Presbyterian

Second Presbyterian still has 2 active PW circles.

The Friendship Circle, chaired by Betty Landes, donated 9 blankets to the Blanket the Valley campaign.

Presbyterian Women donated \$100 to Western State to buy gifts for patients.

The congregation donated \$395 to the PW Thank Offering.

Sixteen bags of canned goods and nonperishables donated by the congregation were delivered to the Valley Mission.

2 volunteers helped several days at Massanetta in feeding the refugees currently staying there. We also provided a meal and served the homeless through the daily meal program at Trinity Episcopal

PW's next project will be sponsoring the Blanket Fund in February.

Submitted by Mary Rainey, PW Moderator, and Pam Snyder



## The task ahead of us is never as Great as the Power behind us.

The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

We don't change the message, The message changes us.

PW Sunrise January 2022

#### Shenandoah Presbytery Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team November 6, 2021 meeting

Darlene Mason Pam Snyder Ruth Williams Paula Osborne abs.

Connie Wood Vickana Norton Punker Robertson Pat Armstrong abs. Karen Stevens Donna Parker Harriet Kopp Joyce Anderson abs.

The Presbyterian Women of the Shenandoah Presbytery in the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (PWSP) met on Saturday, November 6, 2021, at 10am. We were graciously hosted by Third Presbyterian - Staunton; many thanks to Darlene Mason for a wonderful lunch and meeting space and the additional hospitality of Becky Grogg. It was great to get together and see one another and share fellowship and meet Rev. Jacob and his wife.

The meeting was called to order by moderator Darlene Mason. Donna Parker shared the devotional time and lighting of the Christ candle with a delightful reading on 'Frosty the Snowman' and Psalm 90. Do you have a plan for the New Year?

Guests visiting: Mimi Moring and Blanche Sager. We were glad they joined us and correspondence was shared from Mary Lou Cox on the happenings of Beulah/Monterey.

The PW pledge was recited in unison.

<u>Vickana Norton, Secretary</u> report – Thank you to those that had checked with your churches and turned in some updates for the directory 2021-2022. A PDF copy will be emailed to you for your review first and then additional updates made one more time before it will be sent out again and be the one you can share with everyone. Please let me know if you require paper copies for anyone. Otherwise a hard copy running of the directory will not be automatic. We want to make sure the information for your churches are as up to date as possible because others use the information and we do on this coordinating team.

August meeting minutes were approved as previously distributed.

<u>Karen Stevens – Treasurer report</u> Treasurers report submitted and approved. Operating fund as of 8/6/21 and ending 11/6/21 is a balance of \$8395.25. Receipts totaled \$1272.00 and disbursements \$1572.00. Donation was sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance \$200 and Memorial sent for Sue Hotinger \$100. It was discussed to plan on giving to the Massanetta Springs 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign when it kicks off in the summer. Karen shared correspondence received from the family of Linda Livick for memorial donation made to Augusta Stone. The annual Treasurers report is included herein.

<u>Harriet Kopp – Historian report</u> Harriet asked us to help review the Historian Questionnaire for relevant questions this year. We discussed many topics from this form and this helped Harriet. She will use the directory when complete to send the form out via email and mail in January.

#### TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

#### Presbyterian Women Shenandoah Presbytery

Operating Year November 3, 2020 through November 6, 2021

FUND	Balance as of 11/3/2020	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance as of 11/6/2021
Operating Fund	\$8887.17	\$375	\$866.92	\$8395.25
Least Coin	-0-	\$524.52	\$524.52	-0-
Birthday Offering	-0-	\$4194.50	\$4194.50	-0-
Thank Offering	-0-	\$4177.00	\$4177.00	-0-
Mission Pledge/CW	-0-	\$200.00	\$200.00	-0-
Mission Pledge/Synod	-0-	\$600.00	\$600.00	-0-
Honorary Life Membership	-0-	\$95.00	\$95.00	-0-
Misc/Sunnyside Links	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Misc/Living Waters/Other	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Misc/Blankets	-0-	\$1115.00	\$1115.00	-0-
TOTALS	\$8887.17	\$11,281.02	\$11,772.94	\$8395.25

<u>Connie Wood – Vice Moderator report</u> as provided: I was in contact with Colleen Earp, who is the new Director of Programs, which includes Camp and Retreat Ministry for Youth and Adults at Massanetta Springs. She was invited to attend this meetins but was not able to come. She did say to keep her psoted if there are particular ways she can support us as we plan for the Spring Gathering. Colleen added that she would be glad to meet with us sometime to talk about how things are going and learn more about the relationship between PW and Massanetta. I am hoping that we can have a Spring Gathering in April of 2022 if at all possible. We would plan on proceeding with the 2020 Spring Gathering as we were ready to go with it and make some changes for 2022 without too much difficulty. I will work with Karen Stevens and anyone else on the CT who would be interested in helping and will also contact Clayton to see if we can get a Saturday in April reserved.

#### Justice and Peace report – Ruth Williams

Presbyterian Women began attending the United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women about 15 years ago. PW attendees were encouraged to apply for UN consultative status. It took several years for the application to be approved but in 2018, just prior to the Churchwide Gathering, PW was notified that the UN consultative statushad been obtained. What does this mean? This means that PW is allowed to participate using its own voice at the UN and gives PW twenty UN passes for the PW Commission on the Status of Women. PW then made 4recommendations for strategies and goals that were approved by the PW Board of Directors. PW continues to team with the Presbyterian Ministry at the UN and Ecumenical Women, an international coalition of church denominations and ecumenical organizations which have status with the Economic & Social Council at the UN.

Our own Pam Snyder serves in this capacity and as PW we should be extremely pleased with what has been accomplished and offer our sincere thanks to those who have been a part of and responsible for the status with the UN that PW is a part of and able to participate in.

#### Pam Snyder - Horizons & Celebration Giving reports

The latest edition of the *Horizons*, "Go and Do Likewise" was recently received by mail, and it is also available on the website at <a href="https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons">www.presbyterianwomen.org/horizons</a>. This edition, which focuses on PW mission, includes the following:

- A devotion based on "Blooming"
- A list of the 2021 Thank Offering Recipients. Note that a recipient from the Synod of Mid-Atlantic, Presbytery of Charlotte, received a \$12,000 grant for Operation Desert Drop. Read more about this program at cooperativeministry.com
- A Dedication Service for the 2021 Thank Offering.
- Bible Study Resources for use in studying Lessons One and Two of the 2021-2022 PW Bible study,
   What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.
   Called to God's Mission by Bruce Reyes-Chow which explores what it means to be Presbyterian and
   a member of a vibrant community of faith.
  - Working for Justice and Peace an excellent article submitted by Joy Durant, immediate past VM for Justice and Peace for the PW Board of Directors, which highlights PW's work at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.
  - Learn how other PW groups have been living the PW Purpose and making a difference during the challenges of the pandemic.

PW *Horizons* continues to offer a special magazine subscription rate of \$19.95. A subscription includes 5 issues

of Horizons magazine plus the PW/Horizons Bible study. You also have full access to all digitally.

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

- 2022-23 study *Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight* by author Carol Bechtel. Carol will be presenting the new Bible study at our PW Synod Summer Gathering, June 9-12,2022, at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center.
- 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

#### PW Thank Offering!

The Thank Offering is generally collected in November. 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 ministry, 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 <u>projects funded this year</u> at <u>presbyterianwomen.org</u> 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. 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 <a href="mailto:stevenskr2005@yahoo.com">stevenskr2005@yahoo.com</a> or 540-430-1626. Your Thank Offering gifts should be mailed to: **Karen Stevens**, **251 Rosser Avenue**, **Waynesboro**, **VA 22980**.

#### **Annual Fund Giving!**

PW provides an excellent promotional resource for our 2022 Annual Fund (Mission Pledge.)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit." John 15:5. This resource shows all the ministries that the Annual Fund makes possible and encourages gifts to the Annual Fund through your circle, congregation, presbytery and synod. This item, PWR21011, can be ordered, at no cost, from <a href="https://www.presbyterianwomen.org">www.presbyterianwomen.org</a>. Learn more about the many ministries seeded and lives changed by Presbyterian Women, including the Bible study, our PW presence at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, programs such as the Churchwide Gathering, and even support of the women in the congregations and PW circles. Presbyterian Women - working together with Purpose!

Gifts to the Annual Fund/Mission Pledge may also be submitted to Karen Stevens, Presbytery PW Treasurer.

<u>Harriet Kopp – Historian report</u> Harriet asked us to help review the Historian Questionnaire for relevant questions this year. We discussed many topics from this form and this helped Harriet. She will use the directory when complete to send the form out via email and mail in January.

#### <u>Together in service report – Punker Robertson</u>

Helping Hands is a mission from the Fairfield PC feeding people fresh produce. Each Friday for almost 2 years now, they are set up outside and average about 20 families per week. Some other organizations and churches participate along with them. Clothing and Shoes are also sometimes a part of their offerings. The Relief Association comes 1time per month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday and helps to distribute some other helpful items on that day. This ministry has continued throughout the pandemic. Approximately \$150 each week is spent out of pocket for this program to keep going with the fresh food offerings being purchased at the local grocery store with bulk deals and specials in mind. Weather kept them at bay just 1 Friday last year, otherwise year round it has operated. Your churches are encouraged to get engaged in your area with a like or similar program. It is Operation Christmas Child season and the young lady sponsored from the Congo staying with them will help pack the boxes this year and is really looking forward to being a part. Massanetta is looking for assistance with the Afghanistan refugees staying there. Massanetta is working with CWS. Many refugees are being housed there and provided meals and a peaceful place to stay at the moment until they can get out into the community for more permanent housing. Funds to assist in food purchase and volunteer help is needed. Dale Dobroth can be contacted at 540-421-9409 or go to the Massanetta Springs website for more information. Please consider getting engaged to help with this effort. The refugees have come here with practically nothing fleeing for their lives. Camp Paddy Run has survived and is doing well, have had campers to come and campsites and cabins are getting redo's. The camp is supported by a good board of directors with good things going on. Open to camping people. There are many opportunities for giving through the Christmas season: Samaritans Purse, Presbyterian Giving catalog, Heifer International and many others.

#### Sunrise Editor - Pat Armstrong (and Rich Armstrong)

#### REPORT FOR November 2021 CT MEETING FROM SUNRISE EDITOR

Thanks so much to those who shared contributions for the November Sunrise. Our next edition will go out January 1st. This will be a great time to share about New Year's resolutions. Maybe you could get some of the ladies at your church to share ways of serving God through missions and Ministries at your church. Also please share special celebrations at your church during the Christmas season. Hope to get some new contributions from folks we don't usually hear from. Happy Thanksgiving and may the joy of Christmas be special in your hearts as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Remember to start planning for Summer Gathering. It's going to be a special event at Massanetta in June. Special thanks to my husband Rich who spent a whole day putting the November Edition together. Prayers also requested for my brother who is currently under hospice care.

#### Interim Search Committee - no report

#### Pam Snyder - Leadership Coordinator

#### Report for the Mission Community Coordinators

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 some congregations have not held in-person PW circle meetings. Also confirm the current PW leadership contact.

Share information about the current PW Bible Study, the 2021-2022 Bible Study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus by Merryl Blair.

P

<u>Share what some other PW groups are doing:</u> 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. There are also excellent ideas being shared in the editions of *Horizons!* 

<u>For Mission Community Coordinators:</u> Schedule a Zoom meeting of the Moderators in your Mission Community. This is an excellent way to share ideas and learn from one another. Encourage all to utilize the free resources available at <a href="https://www.presbyterianwomen.org">www.presbyterianwomen.org</a>. Inquire if they subscribe to *Horizons* magazine. This also regularly includes valuable information.

Encourage Moderators to submit information for our Presbytery *Sunrise* newsletter.

Remind all of our upcoming PW Synod Summer Gathering which will be held June 9-12, 2022 at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center. We already have some very dynamic speakers and workshops confirmed. Plus, you can't beat a weekend at Massanetta with the fellowship and friendship of other PW!

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

#### PW Newsbytes: Don't forget this valuable resource!

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 you 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.

Blessings and peace to all, Pam Snyder, Leadership Coordinator

#### Mission Community Coordinator report Paula Osborne

#### **Eastern Panhandle and Potomac Highlands**

report for the Eastern Panhandle of WV

#### **Berkeley Springs**

The PW are meeting every second Saturday morning of the month and are using the Horizons book, What My Grandmother's Taught Me by agdalena I. Garcia. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of November, The PW Moderator Adienne North will share a Minute for Mission and collect the Thank Offering.

#### **Charles** Town

On October 23,2021 church members enjoyed for the first time since Covid, a community gathering, Yokesfellows BBQ Dinner. The church is offering onsite and online worship every Sunday.

#### Elk Branch

Their Minister is recovering from a heart attack and will be returning the first Sunday in December. The members are happy for his return while having other ministers coming to preach until his return. The church supports Meals on Wheels and Church Wide Service.

#### Gerrardstown

Is offering Free Fall Festival program every Saturday night at 5:30p.m. Coffee, tea and snacks are enjoyed with members and community while worshiping God with contemporary songs, a brief message, fellowship and prayer. They continue to have their community dinner as a drive through the last Tuesday of each month.

#### Shepherdstown

PW are meeting every first Thursday of the month, 10:00 a.m. onsite and online. The book they are studying is Braiding Sweetgrass, Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teaching of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer. The PW circle is also contributing to the Thank Offering this month.

#### <u>Tuscarora</u>

Will be celebrating a Fall Festival Sunday evening at the church's grounds.

Thanksgiving they are working with Martinsburg Union Rescue Mission where members drop off food for those in need for Thanksgiving.

The PW are meeting and are enjoying the Horizons Bible Study. They will be supplying an offering for the Thank Offering.

<u>Mountain Valley and Central Valley - Donna Parker</u> report - Donna is working on a continued successful recovery from her heart procedure. With the ladies she is talking to, some are doing other bible studies and some the Horizons study, covid has definitely had an impact on the churches in her area. They have slowed down all over and some are meeting. She reported on some mission goings on in her area.

<u>Pam - Highland</u> – reported on some mission activities within her church and in the area. She will be checking in with her churches for updates. Pam will also check in with Joyce Anderson's churches to get updates for the directory. Once Joyce is recovered from her health issues she does want to assume the Mission Community Coordinator duties for Highland Augusta 2 and 3.

*Mary Lou Cox* – shared via email that the Beulah/Monterey PW meet monthly via Webex. They have found that they meeting online does allow some of the ladies with mobility issues to join along. They completed the 2020-21 study of Psalms of Lament and enjoyed sharing their own laments. It was a learning as well as a sharing experience. In October they began the new Horizons Bible study, What My Grandmothers Taught Me. They are getting to know about each other's grandmothers through sharing of stories and photos. Billi Cox led their study from Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.

#### **Moderators Report - Darlene Mason**

I attended the Mid Atlantic Synod meeting via Zoom on October 15 and 16<sup>th</sup>. There was talk about the Creative Care Congregations springing up, not only in our country but globally and the roll the Young Advocate Volunteers (YAV's) are playing in this effort. We are called to care for the world and those in it. Climate changes that are taking place have affected many with flooding, tornados, hurricanes, wild fires and snow storms.

In the beginning, "GOD created the heavens and the earth" and on the 6<sup>th</sup> day God made man and woman to rule over the earth. That means that God gave absolute authority and control over it. When God delegated authority to the human race, it was expected of us to take responsibility for the environment and other creatures that share our planet. God was careful how the earth was made so we must not be careless about how we take care of it. God holds us accountable for our stewardship.

We mourn the passing of Sue Hotinger, past Moderator of Shenandoah Presbytery Coordinating Team and a strong PW. Sue was a member of New Monmouth Presbyterian Church near Lexington, VA.

Pat Armstrong shared in her sent Sunrise Editors report that her brother is under Hospice care. Please keep them in your prayers as Pat also deals with macular degeneration which causes her to have difficulty in reading. She would certainly love to hear from you and receive your encouragement.

We are coming up on the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. We should be grateful to live in a country that allows the many differences of opinion and tolerates, for the most part, our right to express said opinions. I have a great deal to be thankful for; my health issues are not any better but they are not getting worse!

GOD gives us unconditional love, forgiveness of sins, eternal salvation and most of all, a second chance.

In Christ's Service

Darlene Mason, Moderator

#### **OID BUSINESS:**

There are quite a few vacant positions on the CT. Please keep in mind those that might enjoy the opportunity to serve and share their gifts on the Presbytery level of PW.

Punker will share a devotion for the February meeting since we have the Worship Resources position currently open.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Members voted to support the CWS Food Fund at Massanetta for the Afghanistan Refugees with a gift of \$500.00. Members voted to support Heifer International with a general gift amount of \$250.00. Members voted to support 3 participants to enroll in the Women's Empowerment Project in the amount of \$300.00 from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog.

February meeting is currently pending depending on weather and tentative location is Sunnyside, the date time location, will be confirmed mid January.

Meeting was adjourned with blessing given by Darlene after she expressed great pleasure in getting to see everyone and thanked all those in attendance.

Submitted Vickana Norton – Secretary

# People are funny; they want the front of the bus, Middle of the road, And back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, But temptation bangs on the front door forever.

Peace starts with a smile.

PW Sunrise January 2022