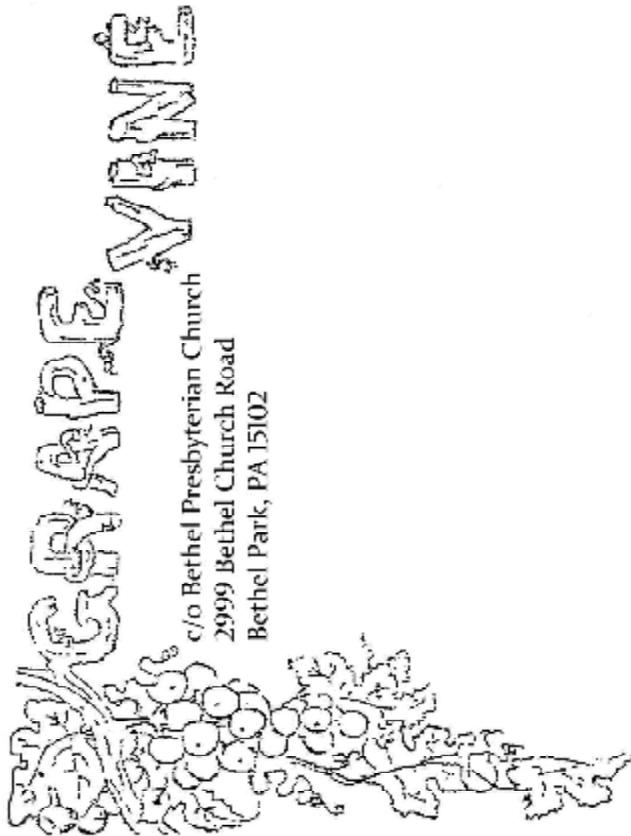


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PWPP GRAPEVINE

February 2014

Presbyterian Women in the Pittsburgh Presbytery



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

901 Allegheny Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15233



*You Are Invited to the
16th Annual Prayer Breakfast*

*Praying in All Seasons of Our Life
The Reverend Jodi Flack*

*Saturday, March 15, 2014
Beginning at 8:30 a.m.*

*at
Bethel Presbyterian church*

More information inside

Please join us for the
26th Annual Spring Gathering
"Presbyterian Women:
Where Faith, Hope and Love Abide"
Saturday, April 26, 2014
Third Presbyterian Church
The Rev. Sharon Stewart,
Worship leader

More Information inside

Moderator's Message

***"With God all things are possible."
Matthew 19:26***

It is hard to believe how quickly time has gone by. Here it is ... my last Moderator's Message. In a few months, my term as PWPP Moderator will be completed. I really don't know how to begin to describe how incredible my journey as Moderator has been.

After being installed in April, it was my privilege to attend the Church Wide Gathering in Orlando, Florida in July. Words simply cannot express how wonderful it was. While attending the gathering and connecting with Presbyterian Women who traveled from every corner of the world, I came home knowing just how amazing it is to be part of the sisterhood of Presbyterian Women. It was truly a blessed experience.

During the past two years as Moderator of PWPP, I attended the Synod CT Meetings at Antiochian Village, Ligonier, PA, the Synod Regional Gatherings and attended many of our PW congregations' church events and celebrations. Being invited to participate in several of the PW installation ceremonies was very touching to me ... seeing women stepping into leadership positions on their PW Boards.

My prayers are that Presbyterian Women today, as Presbyterian Women of 200 years ago, will continue. Yes, we are facing a new and different world with many changes from what our Presbyterian Women of years past faced, but let us continue to follow:

OUR PURPOSE

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

*to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,
to support the mission of the church worldwide,
to work for justice and peace and
to build an inclusive, caring community of women
that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA)
and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.*

Registration

Spring Gathering 2014

Saturday, April 26, 2014

Registration 8:30 am

Program 9:00 am

Third Presbyterian Church

Registration Fee: \$10:00

Registration Deadline: April 23

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ CELL NO. _____

E-MAIL _____

CHURCH _____

Guest _____ Total # Attending _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PWPP and SEND TO:

***Charlesetta McKinney
5528 Hampton Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206***

www.pghpresbytery.org

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible, and receives the impossible!

The Annual Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, March 15, 2014

Bethel Presbyterian church

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Program and worksip

Registration Fee: \$10.00 per person

Registration Deadline: March 10, 2014

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ EMail _____

Church _____

of Guests: _____ Total # Attending _____ Total Enclosed\$ _____

Please make your check payable to PWPP and send to:

*Charlesetta McKinney
5528 Hampton Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15206*

I sincerely thank everyone who volunteered their time and talents during these past two years, working diligently on all the Committees for the PWPP Programs and Gatherings. It was gratifying to see the responses of the evaluation forms from all events (enjoyable, informative, spiritually enlightening). The attendance was marvelous ... 50 to 70 ladies at the gatherings. What a joy it was to see both new and familiar faces.

I could continue on and on recalling the many blessings I received as Moderator of PWPP. If you are asked to serve on the PWPP Coordinating Team, I would encourage you to seriously consider accepting. It is an enriching experience and well worth the time invested.

The Coordinating Team Committees have been hard at work planning the upcoming calendar of events:

Prayer Breakfast
at Bethel Presbyterian Church, March 15, 2014

Annual Spring Gathering
at Third Church, April 26, 2014

Synod of the Trinity
at Waynesburg College, June 19-21, 2014

Nothing would delight the Committees more than having you attend these events. Be sure to check the rest of the Grapevine to find detailed information on all three well-planned, important PWPP and Synod events. Take out that pen and mark your calendars now!

Forgiven and Freed by God in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves, to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, continue to pray for guidance of the Holy Spirit, that the Presbyterian Women will grow in faith and service.

*In Christ,
Carol MacDonald*

Upcoming Events

Please join us at the
16th Annual Prayer Breakfast
Saturday, March 15, 2014
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Registration Fee \$10
Deadline March 10

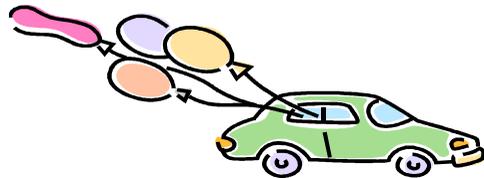
Praying in All Seasons of Our Life
The Reverend Jodi Flack

Enjoy the fellowship and breakfast at Bethel Church
8:30 a.m. registration
9:00 a.m. Breakfast followed by presentation
and worship

Directions to Bethel:

From South/West: Take I-279S and exit at Bridgeville. Turn right onto Washington Pike Rd . Follow Washington Pike to Boyce Road and turn left. Follow a very windy road till you reach Route 19 and turn left on RT.19N. Pass South Hills Village on the right. Turn right on to Fort Couch Road and at the fifth light turn left onto Bethel Church Rd. Turn right into church parking lot and enter church at the office door by playground.

From East: From the Fort Pitt Tunnels use the Banksville Rd. exit. Follow Rt. 19South signs through Mt. Lebanon to Washington which is still RT.19South. Turn right onto Washington Rd. and follow Rt.19S to Fort Couch Rd. and turn left and at the fifth light turn left onto Bethel Church Rd. Turn right into church parking lot and enter the church at the office door by playground.



Ecumenical News

February 2014

Greetings from Church Women United;
Founded in 1941, Church Women United (CWU) is a national volunteer Christian ecumenical women's movement initiated and carried out by women in the United States and Puerto Rico. It is a movement that brings together women of diverse races, cultures and traditions in closer Christian fellowship, prayer, advocacy, and action for peace with justice in the world. CWU engages millions of women representing twenty-six supporting denominations and participating Christian women.

The local chapter of CWU meets the second Saturday of the month at St. James AME at Meadow and Lincoln Avenues. We also look forward to seeing you at our May celebration. Check the calendar on the Presbyterian website. If you would like more information, please contact me at epatterson391@ymail.com.

If you would prefer to no longer receive the Grapevine through the mail, please contact Kathy at Bethel Presbyterian Church by calling 412-835-0405.

Remember that the Grapevine is available on the web at www.pghpresbytery.org/pw



Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible, and receives the impossible!

Spring means Birthday Offering

February 2014

What is the Birthday Offering?

The Birthday Offering is a PW offering collected in the spring of each year to celebrate the blessings in the lives of Presbyterian Women. The offering funds up to five projects that are not included in ongoing General Assembly mission support, such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns.

History of the Birthday Offering

In 1922, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary (PCUS), it was decided that an offering should be made for a definite cause. That same year, Hallie Paxson Winsborough, superintendent of women's work, visited Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan. Realizing the school's needs, she challenged members of the Women's Auxiliary to give one penny for each year of their life as a birthday gift to the school. Over the years, that tradition has become known as the Birthday Offering. Presbyterian Women have given more than \$29 million in support of mission projects throughout the world.

Grant recipients

2013 RECIPIENTS

After reviewing numerous proposals, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee chose Westminster Neighborhood Ministries to receive the sole grant from the 2013 Birthday Offering. Gifts to the 2013 Birthday Offering will allow this ministry in Indianapolis to expand educational services to children and adults, and provide financial counseling to families. The goal for the offering is \$500,000.

Westminster Neighborhood Ministries Child, Family and Adult Education Connection, Indianapolis, Indiana

Westminster Neighborhood Ministries serves the basic needs of families who live in Near Eastside Indianapolis, where close to 34 percent of neighborhood families have incomes below the poverty level. Over the past 30 years, Westminster's services have grown rapidly; services must continue to expand to effectively meet the needs of additional clients. From early childhood programs to youth programs and adult services, Westminster Neighborhood Ministries provides vital resources for area families. Your gifts to the PW Birthday Offering will allow Westminster to expand its educational services, extending service to preschool-age children, expanding its basic adult education program, and providing financial counseling to families so that they can more-effectively improve and sustain their standard of living. Expanded adult services will include job skills training and résumé building, developing adult literacy and basic math skills, financial counseling and budget building, cooking and fitness training, post-secondary education preparation, and anger management classes. All these resources are offered to help create stable families in which parents cope with everyday stresses, participate in their children's education and become better role models for the children in their care.

The 26th Annual Spring Gathering
Saturday, April 26, 2014
8:30--9:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
Registration Fee: \$10 per person
Registration Deadline: April 23



"Presbyterian Women: Where Faith, Hope, and Love Abide"

Renew your hope, increase your faith, feel the love, and share in the fellowship of Presbyterian Women at the annual Spring Gathering on Saturday, April 26, at Third Presbyterian Church in Shadyside. All Presbyterian women are invited to attend as we dedicate the Little Dresses for Africa mission project and the Birthday Offering, give thanks to our outgoing leaders, celebrate the installation of our new leaders, and conduct our annual business meeting. The Reverend Sharon Stewart, Senior Minister of Crafton United Presbyterian Church, will lead us in worship. Members of the Third Church choir will perform a selection of uplifting and joyous music, and a delicious lunch will be served. Please mark your calendars and register early for this happy occasion.

DIRECTIONS TO THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5701 Fifth Avenue (corner of Fifth and South Negley), Pgh. 15232, 412-661-4710

From the **South and West**, after the Ft. Pitt tunnels, take the Parkway East toward Monroeville. Exit at Forbes Ave. and proceed past the Pitt Cathedral of Learning.

Turn left at Bellefield Ave. (at the Carnegie Museums), then right at the first light onto Fifth Ave. Continue on Fifth Ave. for about 2 miles to the corner of Fifth and South Negley Avenues. Third Church is on the left. Enter the parking lot at the second opening. Parking will also be permitted on Fifth Ave. on the same side as the church if the lot is filled. Enter the social hall from the parking lot entrance

From the **North**, come across the 16th Street bridge, turn left onto Liberty Ave., and follow to a right turn onto the Bloomfield Bridge (to avoid traffic congestion on Liberty Ave.) Turn left at the top of the Bloomfield Bridge and go straight down the hill to Fifth Ave., (past Baum Blvd, across Center Ave.) Turn left onto Fifth Ave. and follow above directions to Third Church.

Presbyterian Women of Bethany Presbyterian Church in Bridgeville has been so blessed this past year and we are thankful for the continuing support from our church and our community. We are never without struggles as are all PW's, but God somehow keeps us going strong! We have a fabulous Coordinating Team that work extremely hard. We are excited about the challenge to sew "Little Dresses for Africa" from the PWPP and hope that we can do our part. Our Lenten Brunch this year will be a Scripture Tea and will be on Saturday morning, April 19, 2014, at 10:00am - so ladies put on your fancy hats and dressy clothes and join us! We will have our annual rummage sale on Saturday, May 3, 2014, starting at 8:00am until 1:00pm along with our beautiful hanging basket sale that we have each year. Another annual event for us is our Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 7, 2014, from 4:00 until 7:00pm which will be looking a little different this year, so come and check it out! Proceeds from these events serve missions locally and internationally. It is an exciting time around Bethany Presbyterian Church as we are celebrating our 200th birthday throughout the year - stop and visit us sometime.
Barb Crawford, Moderator



Third Presbyterian Church will hold its Spring Rummage Sale in the church social hall on Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Come early for the best selection of clean, gently worn fashions for women, children and men, a wide range of household items, small furniture, linens, accessories, and of course hundreds of books--all priced at ridiculous prices. Stay or come back for the 1:00 Dollar Bag sale and stuff as much as you can into a Giant Eagle paper bag. The beneficiary of this year's spring rummage sale is the EECM Summer Day Camp.

,Third's PW will celebrate Gifts of Women with a special worship service on Sunday, March 9, and announce a surprise Honorary Life Membership for a special Presbyterian woman in the congregation.

Mission Moneys Distributed Throughout Pittsburgh

During the year 2013 the Women of Pittsburgh Presbytery, through their giving, were able to reach 23 different agencies in the area. Prior to this year, the mission office in the Presbytery distributed the funds we collected designated for Pittsburgh Mission Agencies. Changes in the Presbytery gave the women the opportunity to see that the money marked for Pittsburgh Agencies was forwarded to missions working right here in Pittsburgh. Through the generosity of the women in the local congregations we shared \$10,350 among 23 different missions. Those missions receiving gifts from your donations are:

Allegheny County Literacy Council, Allegheny Valley Association of Churches, Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry, East Liberty Cooperative Ministry, East Liberty Health Care Center, Hosanna Industries, Lydia's Place, Mars Home for Youth, Neighborhood Academy, North Hills Community Outreach Inc., Northside Common Ministries, Off the Floor Pittsburgh, Open Door Youth Outreach Center, Open Hand, Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, Pittsburgh Project, Pittsburgh Region International Student Ministries, Samaritan Counseling Service, Schenley Heights Community Development, Sojourner House/ Moms, South Hills Interfaith Ministries, Ventures in People Program, and Wilksburg Community Development.



Thank you for your generosity that goes to do so much good.

Sally Andrews, PWPP Treasurer

Mission and Issues

ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING....

On November 23, 2013, at the Thank Offering Service, I gave a presentation on human trafficking. I was certainly enlightened during my research on this subject. This is an area that should be discussed and shared to make others aware of the plight of those individuals who are and have suffered such horrible atrocities.

I was on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's website and came across a news release dated December 10, 2013. The release was headed: **Dinniman: Senate Passes Anti-Trafficking Legislation and stated:** State Senator Andy Dinniman announced that the Pennsylvania Senate unanimously passed Senate Bill 75, which is an important piece of legislation to fight against human trafficking. According to the release this bill has the support of dozens of activists and fellow lawmakers, which will improve and better define human trafficking laws to protect victims and prosecute offenders. Further information states Senator Dinniman will hold an Anti-Trafficking event January 16, 2014, at West Chester United Methodist Church. The event will focus on the final push to get Senate Bill 75 passed by the House.

I have been in contact with Senator Dininman's office who will share information with me periodically.

Again, I encourage all of us to become involved and pledge our support to stop human trafficking. Where do we start? Let us start with our churches, contact your local, state and federal political representatives, law enforcement, etc. **BEGIN TODAY TO DO YOUR PART!**

Carolyn Curry



Articles due by
July 17, 2114
for the August newsletter
donovandi@fcpc.us

Northmont United Presbyterian Church Northmont Presbyterian Women were busy in late 2013. Our Autumn Breakfast was held on September 28, 2013; Anne Linaberger, News Director of KDKA was our speaker. The annual Harvest Dinner was held on November 2, 2013 and was enjoyed by many. We hosted a catered Christmas luncheon on December 6, 2013, where Cheryl English was honored as "Presbyterian Woman of the Year" and in appreciation for her service as Moderator of Northmont's Presbyterian Women; Cheryl was given an Honorary Life Membership. Hand bell Soloist, Clinician, & Coach Sue Gorton performed.



Northmont women continue throughout the year with Sarah Bible Study Circle and Dinah's Book Club and with the following service projects - Care Baskets for shut-ins, Northmont Delivers (meals), receptions following Memorial Services for members, Knit-Wits, and Project Linus.

Northmont's "Lunch Bunch" meets monthly at local restaurants for good food and fellowship.

Looking forward, our annual Flea Market and Bake Sale will be on Saturday, April 5, 2014. Please watch Northmont's website, www.northmontchurch.org, for further details



Articles due by
July 17, 2114
for the August
newsletter
donovandi@fcpc.us

Gladden Presbyterian Women are staying active and are reaching out to any women wishing to join us and share our faith and love in our Lord and Savior. In December, Stone Soup was prepared and delivered to the shut-ins and our church neighbors. An Advent Luncheon was also prepared and proved to be successful. We look forward to continuing good works in 2014.

Priscilla Circle, the only remaining circle of **Fox Chapel's** former 16 circles, meets monthly at Longwood at Oakmont where over half the members live. Seven of the members each belong to seven other churches, including an Episcopalian. They are attracted to the HORIZONS Bible study, "Hope in God," skillfully led by Kitty Skinner, a former English teacher who opens up the scriptures with historical background and insights.

Their mission emphasis is carried out by including the Mission Yearbook of Prayer every month and by taking two mission trips every year, one in the fall, and one in the spring. These trips have included visiting the East Liberty Presbyterian Church, the Children's Home, the Bible Garden at Rodef Shalom Temple in Oakland, the Three Rivers Council of American Indians in Dorseyville, the Fox Chapel Preschool, and in the spring will visit the East End Cooperative Ministry's new building. Every month members also contribute to the Hunger Fund of the EECM and to the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

Before Christmas every year, the circle members contribute to Fox Chapel's Dove Tree ministry - providing Christmas gifts for a needy family in one of the area's needy sections. They are also making Little Dresses for Africa. Members are contributing the pillowcases, fabric and trim while Alice Lloyd has offered to do all the Sewing.

Each May each member of Priscilla Circle contributes to a salad luncheon when they host this meal for all the staff of the church. This festive occasion is held in the Commons Dining Room at Longwood, and always looked forward to by both the circle members and the staff.

Wilberta Pickett, circle leader

Presbyterian Women at **Union Church** keep their fingers going all through the winter. From 2001 through 2013, this group of dedicated ladies, and a husband on occasion, have completed over 3171 afghans and lap robes to share with various folks. Twenty afghans have been given with love to babies born to our church family and the babies cared for in our child care center. Through the years most of our baby afghans have been given to Magee-Women's Hospital. Mike, the Magee driver, picked up 210 afghans just this year. These gifts are much appreciated by the babies born at Magee to families without many resources or close family. Forty lap robes were given to the Washington County Nursing Home and many, many hats, scarves and gloves have been distributed to those in need by our Deacons. Presbyterian Women are always finding ways to care for others.



PWPP MISSION PROJECT



“Little Dresses for Africa”

Knowing the history of the girls in Africa and the difficult road that lay ahead, Rachael O'Neill, formed “*Little Dresses for Africa*” a non-profit 501c3, Christian organization. Simple dresses are made out of pillow cases or small amount of cotton fabric, and distributed through the orphanages, churches and schools in Africa to plant in the hearts of little girls that they are worthy!

To ensure that the dresses get to the children, the majority of dresses are sent with mission teams from the United States. Little Dresses for Africa hosts a team once a year to deliver the dresses personally to the grateful and excited little girls that need them so desperately. Presbyterian Women are encouraged to participate in this ministry by organizing sewing groups within your congregation or financial support for shipping of the dresses. Our challenge to each PW is “How many dresses can your group make by April 26th?” Dresses will be collected at the **Spring Gathering at Third Presbyterian Church on April 26, 2014**. Simple patterns are available at the following web sites:

To make the dresses from pillowcases: <http://www.littledressesforafrica.org/blog/pillow-case-pattern/>

To make the dresses from fabric: http://www.nancysnotions.com/text/pdf/LittleDressesforAfrica_pattern.pdf

The Little Dresses for Africa website is <http://www.littledressesforafrica.org/blog/>
Dresses will be sent by the PWPPCT to :

Little Dresses for Africa
24614 Curtis Drive
Brownstown, MI 48134

“We’re not just sending dresses, we’re sending HOPE!”

Pam Adomaitis, Vice Moderator Mission

Mission and Issues

Thank Offering 2013

“WHATEVER YOU DID for One of the Least of These Brothers and Sisters of Mine YOU DID FOR ME” Matthew 25:40b

In contrast to the brisk, cold weather outside, the warmth of Presbyterian Women fellowship overflowed inside Pittsburgh Presbytery November 23rd at the 2013 Thank Offering Gathering.

After an opening greeting, Lighting of the Christ Candle and Blessing, a delicious breakfast buffet from Bistro to Go Catering was enjoyed by the 50 women in attendance. Following breakfast a short business meeting was held to present and approve the 2014 Mission Pledge and receive the Contingent Offering.

An informative presentation by Carolyn Curry, Vice Moderator Issues, reviewed the increasing issues related to Human Trafficking and violence against women and girls. Human trafficking, a modern form of slavery, whose causes and consequences are violations of human rights are present everywhere including the Pittsburgh area. Orange ribbons were distributed to attendees by Moderator Carol MacDonald to wear on the 25th of each month to demonstrate support of the efforts against Human Trafficking.

Our guest speaker Mary McElroy, past moderator Pittsburgh Presbyterian Women in the Presbyteries of Pittsburgh and Upper Ohio Valley and the Synod of the Trinity, led the Worship Service including an excellent visual presentation of her recent experience trip to Africa.

Moderator Carol MacDonald, and Vice Moderator Mission Pam Adomaitis presented the Mission Project, “Little Dresses for Africa” and distributed instruction kits on how make the dresses. PW congregations were requested to participate in this project by sewing the dresses, buying the materials or donating financial support to ship the dresses. Dresses will be collected at the Spring Gathering on April 26, 2014.

After a wonderful morning of “warm” fellowship, an enlightening and informative program closed with prayer to “Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works, a continual Thank Offering to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Pam Adomaitis

Vice Moderator Missions



February 2014

Hello from HUPW.

The Presbyterian women of Hebron Church were able to take part in a large church campaign of Giving, Sharing and Serving. Our Outreach Ministry Team put together a month long project for some of the Missions we support as well as the community we live in. They included: Penn Hills Service Association, The Blessing Board, Pittsburgh Project, YoungLives East Hills, St. James Fellowship, Penn Hills Parks and Recreation, Military Connections and the Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering. The month long project involved 3 key elements: Serving, Sharing and Giving. As the congregation was asked to volunteer to serve the different missions, they went beyond the goals set forth. For example, the goal for Giving was \$16,000 and \$26,805.90 was received; the goal for serving was 1,100 hours, but volunteers served 1,544 hours; a food goal for PHSA was set at 2 tons, however, 5,291 pounds were gathered; 15,000 diapers was the goal for YoungLives but not only 21,500 were donated but also 2,500 baby wipes. Operation Christmas Child received 271 shoe boxes when the goal was 200. To view the wonderful video of the finished project, go to hebrononline.org and click on the word "Beyond." The video shows the different ministry projects and how they were served. The Thank Offering check presented to Hebron United Presbyterian Women was in the amount of \$5,500. Sarah Shorthouse and Dolly Patterson accepted and proudly presented at our blessed Thank Offering service held in November.

The **Bethel** PW has been in existence since 1954. We have continued the traditions with lots of changes to preserve the purpose of PW. Each year we have served a breakfast for Blanket Sunday and a light lunch for ThankOffering Sunday for the congregation at fellowship hour. For our members we have the Celebration of Women/80's Plus Sunday in September, a retreat and an all women of the church Luncheon in May. We also provide a funeral luncheon for church members when needed. We have two events open to the public. The first is a rummage sale in spring and the Holiday-A-Fair in November. HAF includes a PW bake and craft sale, vendors, full luncheon, gift basket raffle and a quilt show. Yikes do we ever stop! Nope. Each year is new and challenging and we do all for mission of PW!



And More News...

BIDWELL PW NEWS!

PW of Bidwell Presbyterian Church has had the second half of the year filled with many blessings as we strive to be faithful to our PW Purpose. Some of our activities for the second half of 2013 included:

Continuing to serve dinner at the Northside Common Ministries Pleasant Valley men's shelter bi-monthly.

Lead the congregation in participation in the Malawi Partnership "A-Maize-ing Grace" famine relief project.

In June Several of Bidwell's PW attended the Synod of the Trinity Regional meeting in Jumonville.

Bidwell PW lead the congregation in donating 100+ African American hair products to Mars Home for Youth Family Services.

Had a wonderful Women's Weekend in October. The Saturday program with the theme "Daughters of God with Style & Grace" included a poignant sermonette from Rev. June Jeffries. Elder Darlene Figgs was the Sunday morning preacher of the day.

A Dedication of the Thank Offering donations was held after all donations were received from PW individual Blessings Calendar. This was completed in November. Bidwell women donating over 100 breakfast bars and dozens of toiletries to Bethlehem Haven women's shelter.

2014 is primed to be an exciting one with some of the planned activities including:

Our Biblical scripture for the year is Psalm 121

We will support the PWPP project of "Little Dresses for Africa" and make as many as we can in the next several months. We are planning a special day of making these dresses.

We will participate in the World Day of Prayer programs March 7, 2014. The WDP committee of Egypt invites us to search for "Streams in the Desert" based on Isaiah 43:18-19

We have committed to a year long food drive for Northside Common Ministries Food Bank. We will also continue serving the men at the Pleasant Valley Men's Shelter.

Our Spring Luncheon/Program will tentatively be May 17, 2014.

Synod News

February 2014



PW SYNOD GATHERING

JUNE 19-21, 2014

Waynesburg University

"Hope in Bloom"

Jeremiah 29:11



*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to
Give you hope and a future."*

Registration Deadline: May 22, 2014.

Cost for Gathering: \$250/double room; additional \$30 for single. First Timers: \$200

(Payment may be made in installments. See Registration form for details.)

Commuters: \$40 per day with maximum of \$70; does not include meals.

Time: Gathering will start Thursday, June 19, at 1:30 PM and close Saturday, June 21, before lunch.

Mission Focus: "**Avis Arbor**" The Synod Gathering mission will be Avis Arbor, a shelter for women and children, serving Washington and Greene Counties. Bring a gift card for places such as Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, and Dollar General.

Accommodations: All of the rooms at Waynesburg University are air-conditioned with a private bath. Electric carts (driven by college students) are continuously available for transportation from one building to another if you don't want to walk the hills. Meals, eaten in the college dining hall, are a part of your registration fee of \$250. They will include Thurs. & Fri. dinner; Fri. & Sat. breakfast; Fri. lunch.

Highlights of the Gathering!!

1. Betsy Ensign-George will lead the Bible Study on *2nd Corinthians*.
2. Pam Snyder, CCT Vice- Moderator for Mission will be the keynote speaker.
3. Workshops: Exploring God's Garden; Planting Seeds for Leadership; Letting Laughter Lighten the Load; Can "U" Hear God's Voice?; PW ADAPT; Hope in Orange Blossoms; PW Mission and many more.
4. 2013-14 Mission Project: Hands Across the Street will receive the offering.
5. Hands-on mission in the Bee Hive in the Student Union.
6. Regular Features: *Horizons* skits; Spirituality Room and much, much more.

Registration materials can be downloaded from the PW link at www.redstone.org.