



SAINT LUKE'S

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## **Yearbook 2017-2018**

770-393-1424

[www.slpres.org](http://www.slpres.org)

# Our Purpose

## What's the purpose of Presbyterian Women?

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.

Presbyterian Women (PW) is a church-wide organization whose membership is open to all women. Presbyterian Women members are those who choose to participate in or be supportive of Presbyterian Women in any way. PW intentionally seeks the membership of women from all racial and ethnic groups so that the organization may reflect a vision of the whole church as a community of mutual interdependence in which diversity contributes to wholeness.

## Presbyterian Women Circles

Circles are small groups that gather regularly to provide an inclusive, caring community of women. Each circle is an integral part of PW and is encouraged to use PW resources to strengthen **this connection**.

A circle is where:

- faith is nurtured and growth takes place through worship, study, fellowship, and outreach
- women are challenged to stretch beyond their limits
- women move beyond the safe places of life, reaching out to others
- Christian leadership is born, nurtured, and sent forth into ministry

Circle meetings are held monthly in the parlor, usually as follows:

- |              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| Circle One   | - 2nd Monday @ 9:30 am  |
| Night Circle | - 2nd Monday @ 7:30 pm  |
| Circle Two   | - 2nd Tuesday @ 9:30 am |

## Meanings Found in the Symbol

### **Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ,**

Forgiven and freed by grace through faith, the central figure stands in praise.

### **and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:**

Rooted in faith, the trio of women emerges. The outline of the central figure forms a cross. We are Presbyterian women, engrafted in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us.



### **to support the mission of the church worldwide**

The left figure reaches out to care for others, as she shares, nurtures, and heals. The circle represents the church worldwide where women offer their gifts and talents in the midst of the global community.

### **to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,**

The right figure holds a book to guide her reading, studying, praying, or meditating.

### **to work for justice and peace,**

The uplifted arms of the central figure reach out to embrace a just peace for the world. The relationship between the three figures depicts lives of wholeness rather than turmoil.

### **and to build an inclusive, caring, community of women**

The three women have no distinct features and represent all women. The shapes surrounding them express energy, strength, and openness.

### **that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

Our name, Presbyterian Women, ties us to our denomination. The Bible resembles the Bible depicted in the PC (USA) seal.

### **and witnesses to the promise of God's Kingdom.**

Guided by our purpose, we witness to the reality of God's realm.

# PW Special Offerings & Projects

## Special Offerings

### **Thank Offering (Collected Each Fall)**

The PW Thank Offering originated in the late 1800s with Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio. Her plan was to ask each woman to give a gift in addition to her usual contribution to the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America as a "thank offering to our Lord." In 1888, the women designated a day for prayer and thanksgiving when this special offering should be received. These sacrificial gifts, it is said, saved the worldwide missionary movement of their denomination. Though the thrust of how and where the money was used changed over the years, the "thank offering to her Lord" continued to be an important part of United Presbyterian Women's giving.

Thanks to your generous giving last year to the Thank Offering, 22 projects (14 national and 8 international) received grants, allowing them to improve the lives of women, children and men in need. The recipients will provide an array of services in their communities—a food bank in a remote area of Colorado where employment opportunities are limited, expansion of an English as a Second Language program in Texas, a shelter for abused women in Mississippi, a women's agricultural program in South Sudan, a youth training program in Rwanda, and many more. At least 40 percent of the offering funds health ministries.

### **Birthday Offering (Collected Each Spring)**

In 1922, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman's Auxiliary (PCUSA), it was decided that an offering should be made for a definite cause. Hallie Paxson Winsborough visited Miss Dowd's School for Girls in Kochi, Japan, and seeing a need, 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. Women are now encouraged to give as generously as they can. Presbyterian Women have given more than \$29 million in support of mission projects throughout the world.

After reviewing numerous proposals, the Creative Ministries Offering Committee chose three projects to receive grants from the 2017 Birthday Offering. Your gift to the 2017 Birthday Offering will allow three life-changing ministries to help families seeking shelter from domestic violence in South Carolina, provide marginalized citizens in rural Cuba with hope and health services, and provide water systems to more than 200 families in New Mexico.

## Worldwide Community Service Projects

### **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 in the world. CWU engages millions of women representing over twenty supporting denominations and their participating Christian women. CWU leads in the celebration of World Day of Prayer, World Community Day, May Fellowship Day and many other worthy projects. The organization's purpose is to make churches aware of needs in the area and the world. CWU collects cancelled stamps and Campbell's soup labels for this organization. Saint Luke's is a member of the DeKalb County Chapter.

### **Fellowship of the Least Coin**

Fellowship of the Least Coin links prayer and "least coins" in a very significant way, as the least coin becomes the symbol of prayer for peace and reconciliation. It was begun in 1956 by Shanti Solomon of India and continues today as a global ecumenical prayer movement. As the coins (symbolizing prayers) are gathered from around the world, they become a sign of our oneness in the common quest for peace, justice and reconciliation. The least coins become grants for special projects of evangelism, service, ecumenical solidarity, awareness-building among women and relief throughout the world.

### **Honduras Outreach**

This organization works "to improve the lives of the citizens of the Olancho in Central Honduras and the lives of North Americans who visit there." Saint Luke's has sent mission teams to HOI's Rancho Paraiso in Honduras for many years, where they participated in a variety of projects to help the people of the Agalta Valley. CWU specifically supports the scholarship program. The group gives funds to sponsor students so that they can continue their education beyond the basic government-provided elementary years and into more specialized and advanced learning on the high school level.

## Local Community Service Projects

### **Thornwell Home for Children**

Thornwell is a children's home in Clinton, South Carolina, offering permanent or temporary care for infants through high school youth. Thornwell Home for Children was founded as a Presbyterian ministry in 1875 by Dr. William Plumer Jacobs, who recognized the need to build an orphanage for children who were left fatherless by the war. Today Thornwell Home for Children is a joyful Christian community, offering hope and wholeness to children and families. Its goals are to provide loving homes for abused, abandoned and neglected children, to offer an opportunity for healing by providing proper healthcare and mental health counseling for every Thornwell child, and to offer Thornwell's children hope for a successful future by providing educational support and teaching self-advocacy.

### **Santa Claus Express - Presbyterian Homes**

The Quitman and Austell Homes, owned and operated by the five presbyteries of Georgia, offer care for the retired and infirm. The Homes are especially noted for their homelike, non-institutional atmospheres as well as their care for Alzheimer patients. During the Christmas season, PW collects toiletries and small gift items for their nursing care residents and other senior residents in need. The gifts are delivered by the jolly old elf himself at the annual Christmas party.

### **Sandwich Project**

Each January, PW sponsors a church-wide project to benefit Atlanta's homeless and hungry. Adults and youth make approximately 10,000 sandwiches which are delivered to homeless shelters throughout Atlanta. Shelters supported in the past include Atlanta Mission, Action Ministries, Crossroads Community Ministries, Immaculate Shrine/Central Presbyterian and Open Door Night Shelter.

### **CHRIS Kids**

CHRIS Kids is a community-based non-profit organization whose mission is to heal children, strengthen families, and build community in Atlanta. CHRIS Kids is an acronym that stands for their core values: Creativity, Honor, Respect, Integrity and Safety. Each spring, PW members prepare Easter bags filled with personal care items and a gift card for the youth in their therapeutic residential programs.

### **Crossroads Community Ministries**

Crossroads Community Ministries is an organization that provides support to homeless men, women and children in downtown Atlanta. Their Clyde's Kitchen feeds over 7,400 meals a year. PW supports Crossroads by donating sandwiches from the Sandwich Project, as well as collecting gloves and monetary donations for MARTA cards.

### **Mission Haven**

Mission Haven provides housing, clothing and assistance for returning missionaries and is supported solely by the PW of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. The rent-free homes are adjacent to Columbia Seminary. PW contributes to the financial support for this program.

### **Family Promise of North Fulton/DeKalb**

Family Promise of North Fulton/DeKalb is an interfaith network of 12+ congregations in North Fulton, Sandy Springs and Dunwoody uniting to provide compassionate assistance for homeless families with minor children. Congregations open their doors to provide a weekly rotating shelter for up to four families. PW collects supplies for the Day Center.

### **Columbia Friendship Circle**

Columbia Friendship Circle provides scholarship support for Columbia Theological Seminary students with families. CFC includes PW groups from throughout the southeast who covenant to pray for, encourage, and support men and women who are pursuing a vocation of ordained ministry.

# **Saint Luke's Service Projects**

## **Saint Luke's Little Saints Preschool & Kindergarten**

SLLS is the accredited weekday school at Saint Luke's Presbyterian Church serving children 12 months old through Kindergarten. Learning through play in a Christian environment is at the core of SLLS education. PW supports this preschool program at Saint Luke's with a donation of scholarship money and collections of items needed by the program.

## **Chrismons**

Chrismon is an acronym for "Christ Monogram." Each year Presbyterian Women bead over 100 Chrismon ornaments which are presented as gifts to the children of Saint Luke's during the Christmas season.

## **Valentine Boxes**

Presbyterian Women collect special treats and goodies, assemble them in Valentine boxes, and send them to members of Saint Luke's who are college students, in the military, or unable to attend services on a regular basis.

## 2017-18 Bible Study



### **Cloud of Witnesses-** *The Community of Christ in Hebrews*

**by Melissa Bane Sevier**

In nine lessons, the author invites us to explore major themes found in Hebrews, relate these themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community. Join the hundreds of thousands of thoughtful Christians who will be sharing this study together in the coming months.

# 2017-2018 Coordinating Team & Circle Calendar

## September, 2017

*Circle Item: Snacks for Saint Luke's Little Saints Preschool & Kindergarten*

Tuesday, Sept. 5	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 6:45 pm
Monday, Sept. 11	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Sept. 11	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am

## October, 2017

*Circle Item: Contribution to Thank Offering*

Tuesday, Oct. 3	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7:00 pm
Monday, Oct. 16	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Oct. 16	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Oct. 17	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am

## November, 2017

*Circle Item: Items for Santa Claus Express*

Tuesday, Nov. 7	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, Nov. 13	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Nov. 13	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 14	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am

## December, 2017

*We will collect a Love Offering for Columbia Friendship Circle*

Monday, Dec. 4	<b>Christmas Gathering &amp; Communion Service</b> 6:00 pm Fellowship in Lobby 6:30 pm Dinner in Great Hall 7:30 pm Communion Service in Sanctuary
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## January, 2018

*Circle Item: Gloves and money for MARTA Breeze Cards for Crossroads Community Ministry*

Tuesday, Jan 9	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, Jan. 15	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Jan. 15	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Jan. 16	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am
Sunday, Jan. 21	Sandwich Project

## February, 2018

*Circle Item: Snack foods, candy, other treats, and money for postage for Valentine Boxes*

Tuesday, Feb. 6	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, Feb. 12	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Feb. 12	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Feb. 13	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am

## March, 2018

*Circle Item: Easter Bags & Money for CHRIS Kids*

Tuesday, Mar. 6	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, Mar. 12	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Mar. 12	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Mar. 13	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am

## April, 2018

*Circle Item: Items for Family Promise Day Center*

<i>Tuesday Apr. 10</i>	<i>Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm</i>
Monday, Apr. 16	Circle 1 @ 9:30 am
Monday, Apr. 16	Night Circle @ 7:30 pm
Tuesday, Apr. 17	Circle 2 @ 9:30 am

## May, 2018

*Circle Item: We will collect a love offering for the PW Birthday Offering*

Monday, May 7	<b>Spring Gathering &amp; Worship Service</b>
	6:00 pm Fellowship in Lobby
	6:30 Potluck Dinner in Great Hall
	7:30 Worship Service in Chapel

## **Nourish Your Spirit**

The Nourish Your Spirit programs are intended to provide additional opportunities for PW members, congregational women, and friends to spend time learning, laughing, and enjoying our faith in a casual setting. These gatherings are a supplement to our regular Circle meetings. Those who attend will find tasty nourishment for the body as well as uplifting nourishment for the spirit - through fellowship and faith-related activities.

“I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit,” (Ephesians 3:16)

**Monday, December 4, 2017 – Christmas Gathering**

**Monday, May 7, 2018 – Spring Gathering**

## 2017-2018 Coordinating Team

Moderator	Fern Mitropoulos
Vice-Moderator	Sandra DuBois
Secretary	Donna Crutchfield
Treasurer	Becky Loftis
Church Women United	Marylyn Brown
Thornwell	Julie Knotts
Fundraising	Diane LeMaster, Nancy Moore, Sally Birsinger
Membership	Debbie Parkes
Moderator, CT Search	Andrea Price
Spiritual Growth	Julie Knotts & Lucy Painter
Chrismons	Lela McIntosh & Susan Crawford
Santa Claus Express	Ellen Womack
Christmas Dinner	Stephanie McGoldrick, Jenny Troha, Julie Knotts, Lindy Farley
Sandwich Project	Christy Keohane, Faye Cashwell
Valentine Boxes	Jean Cronan, Vivian Smith, Jan Kilgore
Easter Baskets	Donna Nall
Women's Retreat	Faye Cashwell, Sally Joyce, Debbie Parkes
Circle 1 Leader	Jan Slater
Circle 2 Leader	Sally Larson
Night Circle Leader	Terri Potter
Bible Moderator - #1	Barbara Douglass
Bible Moderator – #2	Shared Moderators
Bible Moderator – Night	Mary Martin

## **Honorary Life Membership**

In 2000, St. Luke's PW Executive Board voted to participate in the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership award. This award honors someone who has made exceptional contributions to Presbyterian Women. The Honorary Lifetime Membership fee is used for PW leadership training costs, support of leadership development events for women, and assistance for training of leaders for mission interpretation and support.

### **Membership Nomination Process**

No more than three memberships can be given each calendar year. The Executive Committee (Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Secretary and Treasurer) will determine the annual recipient(s) from the names submitted by PW members. The award presentation will be made at the Christmas dinner.

All submissions must be sent to the Moderator by October 3, 2017 for consideration that year. Names may be submitted at any time and will be kept on file with the Moderator until the Committee meets to decide on the candidate(s).

When making a nomination, give the person's name and your rationale for submitting that person for consideration. It is important to mention positions held, extra help given, willingness to work and help, longevity of service, and whatever else you feel makes that person extraordinary. The nomination must be given in writing.

Once the recipient(s) are chosen, the name(s) will be confidential until the Christmas dinner. The recipient(s) will not be notified in advance.

## Past Honorary Life Members

2000 - Jane Allen, Laura Andrews, Ellie Goodwin

2001 - Myron Johnson, Mary Martin

2003 - Nancy Adams, Lila Jean LaMotte, Sally Shelton

2004 - Lela and Tom McIntosh

2005 - Debi Elkins, Karleen Buchholz

2006 - Claydene Dunlap, Amy Stewart, Catherine Anne Thomas

2007 - Jan Slater, Jennie Burroughs, Ellen Massey

2008 - Shannon Dill, June Price

2009 - Sarah Jones

2010 - Susan Edmonson

2011 - Jan Billions

2012 - Patsy Bradley, Byron Brown

2013 - Becky Loftis, Faye Cashwell

2014 – Donna Mason, Suzanne Guyton

2015 – Beth Drescher, Roby Price

2016 – Annie Hardy, Beth Underhill

## Presidents – Women of the Church

Robbie Brunson	1971-72
Eileen Brink	1972-74
Mary Jane McSweeney	1974-76
Jane Allen	1976-78
Diane Mothershed Rooks	1978-80
Sarah Jones	1980-82
Nancy Adams	1982-84
Martha Payne	1984-86
Paula Barbin	1986-88

## Moderators – Presbyterian Women

Carolyn Martin	1988-90
Audrey Richardson	1990-91
Lee-Anne Moxley	1991-92
Felicia Downs	1992-93
Amy Hulett	1993-94
Ellen Massey	1994-95
Cheryl Christensen	1995-96
Sally Shelton	1996-97
Mary Martin	1997-98
Dena Hooper	1998-99
Becky Loftis	1999-00
Amy Stewart	2000-01
Beth Dresher	2001-02
Debi Elkins	2002-03
Laura Jester	2003-04
Catherine Anne Thomas	2004-05
Nancy Boyken	2005-06
Jennie Burroughs	2006-07
Kathie Chipman	2007-08
Laura Singley	2008-09
Wendy Moreland	2009-10
Michelle Vail	2010-11
Donna Mason	2011-12
Lindy Farley	2012-13
Ellen Womack	2013-14
Christy Keohane	2014-15
Faye Cashwell	2015-16
Andrea Price	2016-17

