



SAINT LUKE'S

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Yearbook
2023 – 2024

770-393-1424

<https://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 from September to April at the church. The circle meeting schedule is as follows:

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

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.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

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 Thank Offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the fall of each year, it gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. Thank Offering grants range from \$5,000 to \$50,000.

Eight of the projects were awarded nationally and focused on the following areas: home repair ministry; a path to home ownership for tornado survivors; a partnership with Presbyterian Home for Children and the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind to create a supportive housing community; a project designed to help women prepare for and navigate life after incarceration; day & overnight retreats for low income cancer patients and programs for adults with special needs.

Two of the projects awarded were international. One is designed to address chronic and recurrent malnutrition for rural, exceptionally poor families in Mombin Crochu, Haiti. The other grant will equip physically challenged and low-income women in Lebanon with skills to generate income and remain in their own communities.

The Thank Offering began in 1888 when Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio, urged each woman to give one dollar over and above her usual contribution to the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. A century later, the newly formed Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) adopted the Thank Offering as one of the two grant-making programs of the national organization. Since then, close to \$27 million has been granted to more than 1,600 different projects in the United States and around the world from the PW Thank Offering.

Birthday Offering (Collected Each Spring)

The Birthday Offering is Presbyterian Women's second offering. It awards up to five grants annually ranging in amounts of \$75,000 to \$150,000 each. In 2022, the McCleary House Transitional Housing in Farmington, Maine was awarded a grant to help renovate their facility. The Presbyterian

Church in Puerto Rico received funds to upgrade their kitchen so they could continue their ministry of providing food, purified water and personal items for hurricane and earthquake victims. One of the recipients of the award in 2021 was our very own Memorial Drive Ministries which received funds for improvements to their gymnasium.

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, 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.

Worldwide Community Service Projects

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 HOL's Rancho Paraiso in Honduras for many years, where they participated in a variety of projects to help the people of the Agalta Valley. PW 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.

Alliance for International Reforestation (AIR – Guatemala)

AIR's mission is to implement educational programs, reforestation, and regenerative farming methods in Central America in order to protect water sources, build soil health, prevent mudslides and erosion, prevent lung disease and provide more nutritious crops—while protecting the Earth. All salaried staff members of AIR are Guatemalan professionals. Through their efficiency, experience and many volunteer hours, they are able to channel an extraordinary 92% of their donations directly to the fieldwork and programs in Guatemala.

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.

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 (CFC) 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.

Memorial Drive Ministries

Located in the most diverse square mile in North America, Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM) is a church-based non-profit that fosters diverse worshipping communities, innovative social services, and transformative relationships. Memorial Drive Ministries nurtures a safe, collaborative, and welcoming environment for the vibrant ministries that call the Memorial Drive campus home. Leveraging the community trust, location, and campus of the historic Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church (MDPC), Memorial Drive Ministries convenes critical leadership, organization, and a wide network of loving neighbors to create a new expression of God's Beloved Community.

Church-wide Project

The Presbyterian Women will be working with the St. Luke's ministers to determine a project for one of the Serve Sundays program. It will be a service project involving all of the church community.

Saint Luke's Service Projects

Saint Luke's Little Saints (SLLS) 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.

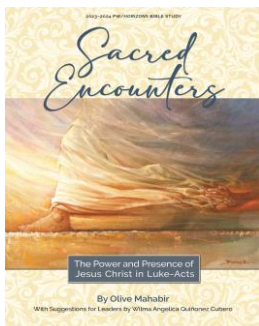
Chrismons

Chrismon is an acronym for "Christ Monogram." Each year Presbyterian Women make 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.

2023-2024 Bible Study



Sacred Encounters

Within the pages of this study, Olive Mahabir invites you to consider Jesus, “the good shepherd” (Luke 10:15), who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people.

The Gospel According to Luke and the book of Acts of the Apostles, or Luke-Acts “one story in two parts,” demonstrates the unfolding of God’s redemptive purposes in human history and present a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ. Written by Luke, a physician and traveling companion of Paul, the message to the early Christian community (and to all of us) is radical, inclusive, and hope-filled.

2023-2024 Coordinating Team & Circle Calendar

September, 2023

Thank offering contribution will be collected.

Monday, Sept. 5	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Session Room (Dinner)
Monday, Sept. 11	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, Sept. 11	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

October, 2023

Monday, Oct. 2	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom
Monday, Oct. 16	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, Oct. 16	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

November, 2023

Tuesday, Nov. 6	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom
Monday, Nov. 13	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, Nov. 13	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

December, 2023

Love Offering: Presbyterian Homes

Monday, Dec. 4	Christmas Gathering & Communion Service
	6:00 pm Fellowship in Lobby
	6:30 pm Dinner in the Great Hall
	7:30 pm Communion Service in the Sanctuary

January, 2024

Circle Item: Items for the Valentine Boxes

Tuesday, Jan. 2	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom
Monday, Jan. 8	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, Jan. 8	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

February, 2024

Tuesday, Feb. 5	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom
Monday, Feb. 12	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, Feb. 12	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

March, 2024

Tuesday, Mar. 4	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom
Monday, Mar. 11	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, Mar. 11	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

April, 2024

Tuesday, April 8	Coordinating Team Meeting @ 7 pm Zoom
Monday, April 15	Circle @ 9:30 am
Monday, April 15	Night circle @ 7:30 pm

May, 2024

Love Offering: PW Birthday Offering

Monday, May 8	Spring Gathering & Worship Service
	6:00 pm Fellowship in Lobby
	6:30 Potluck Dinner in the Great Hall
	7:30 Worship Service in the 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 6, 2023– Women's Christmas Dinner Worship and Communion Service

Monday, May 6, 2024 – Spring Gathering followed by a worship service

2022-2023 Coordinating Team

Terri Potter	Moderator
Marilyn Brown	Vice Moderator
Donna Crutchfield	Secretary
Becky Loftis	Treasurer
Allison Thornton	Thornwell
Diane Lemaster	Fundraising
Kimey Reed	Fundraising
Ellen Womack	Membership
Kay Moe	Spiritual Growth
Fern Mitropoulos	Spiritual Growth
Lucy Painter	Chrismons
Martha Tate	Christmas Dinner
Faye Cashwell	Serve Sunday
Joy Babcock	Serve Sunday
Sylvia Jackson	Valentine Boxes
Pat Troxel	Valentine Boxes
Faye Cashwell	Women's Retreat
Sally Joyce	Women's Retreat
Debbie Parkes	Women's Retreat
Ellen Womack	Monday Morning Circle Leader
Ann Richardson	Monday Morning Bible Moderator
Jean Cronan	Monday Evening Circle Leader
Tricia Bridges	Monday Evening Bible Moderator
Martha Tate	Monday Evening Bible Moderator
Janis Kilgore	CT Search

Carol Hickey	CT Search
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Honorary Life Membership

In 2000, Saint 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 is typically made at the Spring Gathering.

All submissions must be sent to the Moderator 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 announcement. The recipient(s) will not be notified in advance.

Past Honorary Life Members

2000-2001 - Jane Allen, Laura Andrews, Ellie Goodwin
2001 -2002 - Myron Johnson, Mary Martin
2002 -2003 - Nancy Adams, Lila Jean LaMotte, Sally Shelton
2003-2004 - Lela and Tom McIntosh
2004-2005 - Debi Elkins, Karleen Buchholz
2005-2006 - Claydene Dunlap, Amy Stewart, Catherine Anne Thomas
2006-2007 - Jan Slater, Jennie Burroughs, Ellen Massey
2007-2008 - Shannon Dill, June Price
2008-2009 - Sarah Jones
2009-2010 - Susan Edmonson
2010-2011 - Jan Billions
2011-2012 - Patsy Bradley, Byron Brown
2012-2013 - Becky Loftis, Faye Cashwell
2013-2014 – Donna Mason, Suzanne Guyton
2014-2015 – Beth Dresher, Roby Price
2015-2016 – Annie Hardy, Beth Underhill
2016-2017 – Lucy Painter
2017-2018 – Christy Keohane
2018-2019 – Fern Mitropoulos
2019-2020 – Steve Cashwell
2020-2021 – Ellen Womack
2021-2022 – Andrea Price, Jenny Troha

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 Drescher	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
Fern Mitropoulos	2017-18
Sandra DuBois	2018-19
Diane Lemaster	2019-20
Jenny Troha	2020-21
Nan Keel	2021-22
Janis Kilgore	2022-23
Terri Potter	2023-24