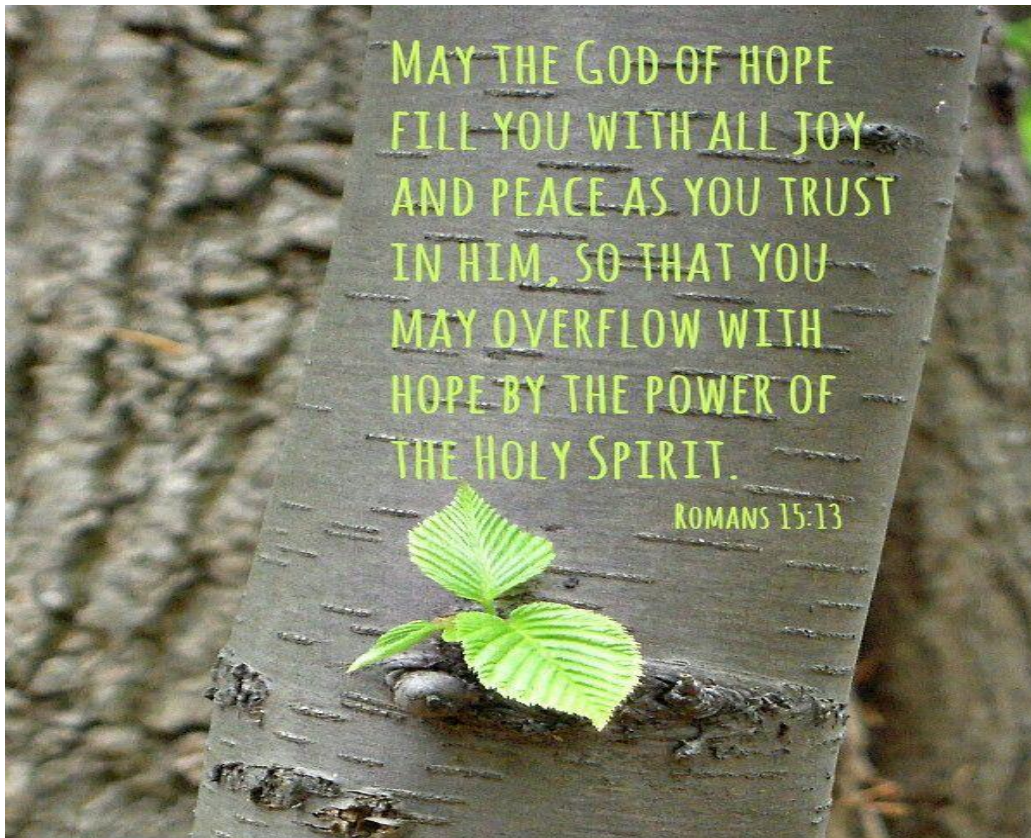


News of the PW/PSV published quarterly, Spring 2021

# SPRING GATHERING

**APRIL 24, 2021 - 10:00A.M.  
Via ZOOM**

**Registration and zoom info on page 2**



**Theme for 2020-2021  
"Overflowing with Hope"**

# CONNECTION CORNER



## Best Practices for Connecting with Zoom

1. Reboot (restart) your device (computer, laptop, tablet, iPad, cell phone)
2. Reboot (restart) your internet connection
3. Only have Zoom open when trying to connect. Close all other programs/browser windows which might be running.

## Registration Info:

**Women wishing to attend the Zoom-based Winter Gathering should register by April 22 by submitting the following information to Martha Pool via email (preferred) [mjpool53@gmail.com](mailto:mjpool53@gmail.com) or by calling and leaving her a voicemail message at 740-407-1708:**

- Name**
- Name of your church (please include city)**
- Phone number**
- Email Address**

A Zoom invitation and meeting agenda will be emailed no sooner than 24 hours prior to the gathering. If more than one person will be sharing your Zoom meeting, you may include their names when you register. The Zoom meeting can be accessed by video and audio using pc, laptop, iPad, or smartphone and even by the old-fashioned way (audio only), by calling on a phone (toll charges may apply).

**If you need help getting Zoom set up, please do not hesitate to call Martha for step-by-step instructions.**

\*\*\*\*\*



The Winter Gathering Video is now available via YouTube. You may click on the following link to view it or alternately browse to [youtube.com and search for PW Winter Gathering 2021. Scioto Valley Presbytery - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/search?q=PW+Winter+Gathering+2021)

## Facebook Page:

Presbyterian Women Presbytery of Scioto Valley

**Website:** [psvonline.org/presbytery-leadership/nurture-outreach-commission/pw-presbyterian-women/](https://psvonline.org/presbytery-leadership/nurture-outreach-commission/pw-presbyterian-women/)

## We have some new sisters to be elected for the PW coordinating team

### PW Coordinating Team

Charlsie Ramsey, Moderator  
[charlsieramsey715@gmail.com](mailto:charlsieramsey715@gmail.com)  
740-322-3028 (cell)

Martha Pool  
Vice Moderator for Studies and  
Spiritual Development  
[mjpool53@gmail.com](mailto:mjpool53@gmail.com)  
740-407-1708

Beth Malchus-Stafa,  
Vice Moderator  
for Mission Interpretation  
[beth.malchus@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:beth.malchus@odh.ohio.gov)  
614/466-8960 (work)

Susan Imel, Vice Moderator  
for Justice and Peace  
Circulation  
[susanime1@gmail.com](mailto:susanime1@gmail.com)  
614-813-7875

Lynne McLeish.  
Directory/Newsletter  
[ronly@windstream.net](mailto:ronly@windstream.net)  
740-763-4188 - home  
740-334-3457 - cell

Betty Kennedy, Secretary  
[bettykennedy58@gmail.com](mailto:bettykennedy58@gmail.com)  
740-285-4548

Nancy Shuster, Treasurer  
[nandshu@aol.com](mailto:nandshu@aol.com)  
614-519-9755

Judy Oeder, Communicator  
[igoeder@hotmail.com](mailto:igoeder@hotmail.com)  
614-561-9458

**Search Committee**  
Louise Davidson, chair  
[lchdavidson011@gmail.com](mailto:lchdavidson011@gmail.com)  
**Nancy Shuster**  
**Betty Kennedy**  
**Diane Boster**

**Resource Liaisons**  
Karen Hypes  
[Hypeskaren@gmail.com](mailto:Hypeskaren@gmail.com) \*new  
740-364-0850, 614-937-6723,  
(cell)

Jane McKee  
[rojam189@live.com](mailto:rojam189@live.com)  
(h) 740-763-2002

Diane Boster  
[dianeboster123@gmail.com](mailto:dianeboster123@gmail.com)  
740-28-2866

**Members of the Search Committee, Diane Boster, Louise Davidson, Betty Kennedy, and Nancy Shuster are happy to report the names of nominees to the Coordinating Team for election at the April Gathering:**

**For Moderator, Martha Pool,** Lancaster Presbyterian Church, Class of 2024

**For Vice Moderator for Studies and Spiritual Development, Vann Rogers,** Bethany Presbyterian Church, Class of 2022 (with an option for a full term, 2022-2025, since she is filling the unexpired term Martha vacated to become moderator.)

**For Vice Moderator for Mission Interpretation, Lynn Coons,** Broad Street Presbyterian Church, Class of 2024

**For Secretary, Alice Harker,** Circleville Presbyterian Church, Class of 2024

**For Search Committee Member, Diane Boster,** Class of 2023, **Louise Davidson,** Class of 2023

**Note** that nominees are needed for a Search Committee Member, Class of 2022 and two nominees for the Class of 2024

More information about each nominee will be provided with Gathering materials. If you are interested in serving on the Search Committee or seek nomination for any of the positions or would like any of the Team's position descriptions, please contact Louise Davidson, [lchdavidson011@gmail.com](mailto:lchdavidson011@gmail.com), 614-736-0042.

**The Search members invite you to nominate yourselves or others for the following positions:**

**Treasurer** (Possibly one year to fill a gap with assistance of the current treasurer) keeps an accurate, up-to-date record of all monies received and disbursed for the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PW/PSV).

**Communicator** (3 years) promotes the reading and use of the churchwide publication, *Horizons*, among Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PW/PSV) and publicizes news, concerns, and issues of PW through the Presbytery newsletter.

**Search Committee** (three members) Members work to fill the open positions on the Coordinating Team.

## From the Moderator

**Gratitude** by Sharlande Sledge

**For these gifts and more, we give thanks to God.**

patches of sunlight, kindred spirits, hope for the future, a good night's sleep, creativity,  
wide open spaces, healing, God's presence from everlasting to everlasting,

the good kind of tired after a job well done, safe return, strength to walk and not be  
weary, grandparents, redbud trees, rivers, lakes, and ponds, the preciousness of life,  
hugs, uncles, silent nights, playgrounds, smooth stones, and seashells,

church suppers, bread that is more than bread, faithful friends, psalms, hot chocolate,  
purple pansies, candlelight, teachers, good neighbors, faith to live into our callings,  
shooting stars, storm homes, memories, parents, youth who keep us seeking,

nativity scenes, sons, courage to risk, peace like a river, walks in the rain, starry skies,  
relationships that deepen through the years, good books, movies and conversations,  
chili on a cold night, hymnwriters and poets, vegetable gardens,

friends who catch our tears, aunts, ministering together, invitations, smiling eyes,  
people who live out the gospel, comfort and joy, maps, autumn leaves, holy moments,  
mentors, forgiveness, language that is in words and beyond words,

rice for the hungry, sitting at the table together, blowing kisses, daughters, solitude,  
doctors' and nurses' healing hands, expectancy, overflow of gratitude, wind of God's  
spirit,  
mission trips, babysitters, hummingbirds, caretakers, picnics,

birthday parties, finding what was lost, shoulders to lean on, wonders of God's love,  
resurrection, children's drawings, adagios and crescendos, those who tug us toward  
justice,  
strength for today and bright hopes for tomorrow,

Streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise.

**For these gifts and more, we give thanks to God.**

\* \* \* \* \*

And I give thanks for each of you who make up PSV/PW! Thank you for allowing me to  
serve as moderator with all my inexperience. Your patience, support, and kindness  
were truly appreciated. Your generosity and willingness to share your gifts makes PW  
of Scioto Valley what it is. Thank you.

And may each of you be wholly present in your own life,  
ready to be surprised by the wonders  
of each ordinary moment. (*A blessing by Joy Mead*)

**Peace & Joy – Charlsie Ramsey, Moderator, PW/PSV**

## **From Martha Pool, Vice-Moderator for Study & Spiritual Development**

“This has been a COVID-19 kind of Lent and that may be one of the best things that ever happens to our spiritual lives.” is the way a recent column by Sister Joan Chittister begins. “COVID-19 has stopped all our fevered running to and fro, back and forth, in life...we get a touch of this kind of time every year – and we either ignore it or chaff under it or pay it not a minute of genuine, personal interest. Instead, we’ve too often found Lent boring, long, useless, just one more burden in life, something to do that has very little meaning in life anymore. Why? Because we have thought of Lent as everything except what it is really meant to be: space, time, change and reflection. Lent is meant to be a time out of time – a piece of life dedicated to rethinking all of it. It’s time to ask where we were last year at this time and where we are now. Or, most of all, where we want to be. And what do we need to do to get there? Lent is the time to renew the best in us.” (See the full column at [ncronline.org](http://ncronline.org))

At the Winter Gathering, small groups shared what each person was grateful for BECAUSE of the pandemic. Here are some of the answers collected from some of those groups

Slowing down

Getting to know grandkids and family members

Clearing out clutter and making scrapbooks

While not physically together, using Zoom has kept us connected and informed about PW

Homes, technology, ability to stay home, hot-spots, teachers, parents willing to teach their children, care for children at home, administrators at schools, learning online, adaptability of church group, church services by zoom, virtual learning.

Technology: Still being able to see each other. Posting pictures on Facebook and talking on zoom.

Sunday service. Seeing my family who lives far away. Zoom has made my family closer than ever. This has been a gift to my family.

Living with my older parents and seeing them with different eyes

Church still goes on: Preaching every Sunday via Zoom, Knitting circles, Mission, Book clubs. Deacon meetings

Hearing wonderful stories: Positive stories of how people are living and working together. Video and news sharing these stories of kindness and good-hearted people

Vaccinations have allowed this person to breathe easier and now have Christmas with her extended family

Keeping very busy during the worst months with the sale of her home and moving and participating in her church’s PNC

Since her family lives close and attends the same church, this individual has been able to see her grandchildren in person after the initial first months of isolation.

A better-than-expected health report.

Being able to spend time with a grown daughter who came home for half a year

Able to take advantage of educational tours online

Getting to know deacon flock at a deeper level rather than casual greetings at church

Intentional time spent with personal relationships

## Eviction: One Symptom of Poverty

The last Justice and Peace column discussed how the pandemic has increased the numbers of individuals who are experiencing poverty. In Ohio, 48 of the 88 counties have poverty rates below the national average. One symptom of increased poverty is more evictions. Despite the moratorium on evictions that was part of the COVID relief packages, evictions are still taking place. According to Columbus Legal Aid attorney Melissa Benson, “the biggest misconception is that [the moratorium is] stopping evictions from happening. It doesn't stop eviction cases from being filed. It doesn't stop court hearings from taking place. It doesn't mean tenants can't have judgments against them. It just means that during the moratorium, they can't be 'set out'” (<https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/courts/2021/01/31/evictions-tenants-have-options-if-pandemic-leads-cases/6659493002/>). Based on number of months behind on rent payment, Ohio ranks ninth in the nation for number of individuals at highest risk of eviction. (<https://www.clevescene.com/scene-and-heard/archives/2020/12/16/ohio-renters-face-some-of-the-highest-risk-of-eviction-in-the-nation-study-says#:~:text=Ohio%20ranks%20No.,in%20the%20next%20two%20months>)

Who is most likely to become at risk of eviction and how does it happen? These questions are addressed by the book *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond. The book tells the story of eight families that Desmond followed over a period of several years as they struggled to keep from being evicted, not always successfully. Perspectives of both renters and landlords are included in the book. Published several years before the pandemic, the situations depicted have only been compounded by the current economic crisis.

Desmond makes the distinction between grinding poverty and stable poverty. Individuals in grinding poverty have so many limitations that they can't imagine how they would ever lift themselves out of poverty. Their economic circumstances are so precarious that they are constantly at risk of eviction. An unexpected car repair or loss of work hours may begin a cascade of events that lead to eviction. The recently passed COVID relief bill may provide a way out of grinding poverty, although a number of the provisions related to children are temporary.

What can be done about evictions? Solutions include becoming educated about the status of evictions in your community, including available legal assistance. Some churches have set aside funds to help those in danger of being evicted, although this is a short-term measure that should be used in conjunction with other strategies such as those proposed by the Urban Institute:

- encourage and build more affordable housing;
- ensure that evicted people have a safe place to live;
- understand that different localities might need different solutions;
- rely on a clear definition of eviction; and
- build evaluation into policymaking (<https://www.urban.org/urban-wire/five-strategies-address-americas-eviction-crisis>).

Desmond, Matthew (2016). *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. New York: Broadway Books.

# TREASURER'S REPORT      March 22, 2021

**BEGINNING BANK BALANCE:** **\$ 3886.48**

---

**INCOME/DEPOSITS**

2/5/2021	PW/PC(USA) HLM	\$ 95.00
2/26/2021	1 <sup>st</sup> Deposit/ 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021	\$ 3893.43
3/15/2021	Winter Gathering Offering	\$ 50.00
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Deposit/ 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021	\$ 5474.33

**TOTAL INCOME:** **\$ 9512.76**

**EXPENSES/CHECKS**

PW in the Synod of the Covenant/ 3% 2020	\$ 481.42
Postage/Winter Newsletter/Susan Imel	\$ 59.95
PW/PC (USA) HLM	\$ 95.00
Innovative Displays (125 Newsletters /Fall 2020	\$ 226.74
PW/PC(USA) HLM	\$ 95.00
PW/PC(USA) 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021	\$ 6799.76
PRESBYTERY OF SCIOTO VALLEY/ 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021	\$ 680.50
SYNOD OF THE COVENANT/ 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2021	\$ 680.50

**TOTAL EXPENSES:** **\$ 9118.87**

<b>PW in the PC (USA) (1stQuarter)</b>	
Mission Pledge	\$ 5443.53
Thank Offering	\$ 1026.00
Birthday Offering	\$ 272.99
Least Coin	\$ 57.44
<b>TOTAL 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER</b>	<b>\$ 6799.76</b>

**CHECKBOOK BALANCE      March 21, 2021** **\$ 4280.37**

---

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Shuster, Treasurer PW/PSV      Happy Easter!!

Please remember that 2nd Quarter Payments are due June 5, 2019

## About the Spring Gathering.....

**Shhhh. It's a surprise!** You are invited to send a note of thanks and appreciation to the Rev. Charlsie Ramsey who has served faithfully the last three years as Moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. Since we will not be meeting in person for the Spring Gathering, we thought a card shower would be the next best thing. Individuals, circles and coordinating teams are encouraged to participate. **Please mark your calendars and send your note AFTER Saturday, April 17, to Rev. Charlsie Ramsey, 715 Daffodil Drive, Howard, OH 43028.**

### VOTE WILL TAKE PLACE REGARDING BY-LAW REVISIONS

There have been revisions made to our PW/PSV by-laws that will need voted upon during the April meeting ( which probably will be by Zoom at this point). Please review these changes and be prepared to vote upon them at that meeting. Here is how to easily find them on the website of PSV:

<https://psvonline.org/presbytery-leadership/nurture-outreach-commission/pw-presbyterian-women/>

### TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR SPRING GATHERING

- Welcome—Charlsie Ramsey
- Devotions & candle lighting—Karen Hypes & Jane McKee
- Business Meeting
  - Voting on by-laws
  - Election & installation of new leaders
  - Recognition of outgoing leaders:  
Charlsie Ramsey, Beth Malchus-Stafa, Betty Kennedy
- Building Community; the Hows and *The Whos* - Lynne McLeish
- *Getting to Know You* - Small groups with these questions to consider: WHO are you? WHERE do you attend church? WHAT led you to that church? and HOW do you participate in building community?
- Commercial for *Horizons* magazine 😊
- Closing





**LOOK FOR THE NEW HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY COMING SOON!**

***What My Grandmothers Taught Me:***

***Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus***

By Merryl Blair

***Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus.***

Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Mary—Matthew names these women for a reason. How might Jesus have heard the stories of his grandmothers; how do we? Explore Matthew 1 and this theme with Presbyterian Women in 2021–2022.

[Learn more about this study and the resources and editions that will be available.](#)

Additional helps in *Horizons* magazine beginning with the Summer 2021 issue. Subscribe (or renew) your *Horizons* magazine subscription by April 1, 2021, and receive the 2021–2022 Bible study as part of your subscription — Call toll-free 866/802-3635 or [subscribe online](#)

**Since 1922, Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering  
has helped fund mission projects that improve lives**

Each year, the Birthday Offering awards grants to up to five programs. Primarily making possible capital improvement projects, the Birthday Offering supports domestic and international ministries, focusing on areas such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence or women's concerns.

Your gift to the Birthday Offering helps fund real solutions in the areas of health, education, economic development and the needs of women and children.

*Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;  
break forth, O mountains, into singing!  
For the LORD has comforted the people,  
and will have compassion on suffering ones.—Isaiah 49:13\**

**A 2021 -2022 directory to be published this summer!**

We all recognize the difficulties due to the pandemic, and even though most PWs have not met in person for a year, the plan is to publish a new directory for the 2021-2022 PW year.

Please support the CT in this effort . Our three Resource Liaisons , Diane Boster, Karen Hypes, and Jane McKee will be telephoning or possibly emailing the individual churches' leaders as listed in the 2019-2020 directory. Offer them your changes with accurate information regarding names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. This action won't happen until June or early July and hopefully by then we will have REAL meetings.

This socially-distanced hugging is getting old! ☺ Any questions or comments can be directed to Lynne McLeish who will be publishing the new directory. ( All of her contact information is listed in the CT column of this newsletter). THANK YOU!