

News of the PW/PSV
published quarterly, Winter 2022

Winter Gathering



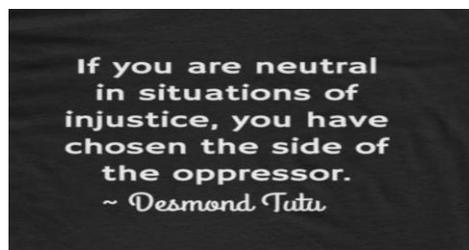
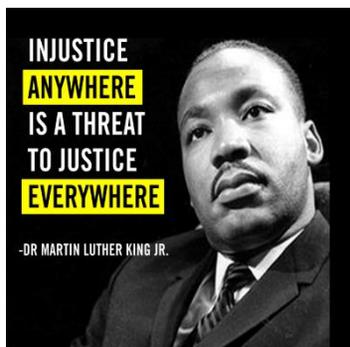
**Presbyterian Women
in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley
will gather Saturday, February 26, 2022
via Zoom**

Seeking Shalom Through Justice and Peace.

The PWPSV Winter Gathering is scheduled for February 26, 2022 beginning at 9:30 a.m. through Zoom technology. Rev. Susan K. Smith, founder of Crazy Faith Ministries, is the main speaker; she will discuss her book "With Liberty and Justice for Some: The Bible, the Constitution, and Racism in America."

The Gathering will also feature justice and peace projects from PSV congregations. Barbara Marshall will discuss Covenant's work in antihuman trafficking; Jayne Elgin from Mifflin Presbyterian will talk about the church's work with refugee families; and Ann B. Walker of Bethany Presbyterian will describe their long history providing a Saturday lunch program that addresses food insecurity and the need for community.

The Gathering will open with devotions to be given by Vann Rogers, PWPSV Vice-Moderator for Study and Spiritual Development. It will also include a small group breakout session and a business meeting to approve the proposed 2022 budget.



TO REGISTER FOR THE GATHERING

Women wishing to attend the Zoom-based Winter Gathering should register by February 24 by submitting their name, the name of their church (including city), phone number, and email address to Martha Pool via email (preferred) mjpool53@gmail.com or by calling and leaving a voicemail message at 740-407-1708. A Zoom invitation will be emailed no sooner than 24 hours prior to the gathering. If more than one person will be sharing your Zoom broadcast, you may include their names, if you know when you register. The Zoom meeting can be accessed with video and audio using pc, iPad, or smartphone and even by the old-fashioned way (audio only), by calling on a phone (toll charges may apply).

From our moderator.....

Following an especially energetic and enlightening CT meeting in January in which a serious discussion arose over the treasurer's report and the subsequent proposed budget for 2022 (see both later in this newsletter), I want to issue a challenge to each reader. But before I state that challenge, let me set it in a certain context.

45 years ago, when I was asked to join a circle (Alpha Zeta) at the Bremen-Bethel Presbyterian Church, you would never have heard me ever imagining being moderator of PW/PSV in my lifetime. Yes, I had a mother and grandmother who were active within their own circles but I can honestly say I never really heard why they belonged or what they got out of belonging. Or if they said, I failed to pay attention. Being asked to join a circle was the meager first step to my long involvement with PW. I was nurtured, encouraged, supported and challenged to lead Bible study, to speak in front of groups, to learn about PW, and to work on mission projects among other things all while working outside the home. When I subsequently changed churches, I was instrumental in pulling a circle together at Rushcreek P.C. and I gave them the nurture, encouragement, support and challenges that I had received myself at Bremen. And it was a fruitful venture.

I've been at First P.C. in Lancaster for not quite 20 years and have had a harder time getting women to be involved in PW. Some of that is historical, ideas that rooted before I arrived. Somewhere along the line they shrank from seven circles to the one and only circle that exists currently. Women in my church engage in Bible study, mission work and care about the needs of our community. And women are certainly in various leadership positions within the church.

So, what is different? Why is it harder to get women involved with PW? There are all kinds of answers to that and we have certainly asked those questions over the last 20 years at various levels of PW. On an individual level, there are so many variables and situations. I reflect on my story and my involvement and know that others saw more potential in my future than I saw myself, but am I looking for that with women in this time and place? Am I looking for women who need PW, who need to be nurtured, encouraged, supported and challenged to be all that they can be? Am I telling my story of how much I have gotten and still get out of PW so that others will clamor to join my circle or attend PW gatherings, how I have made such wonderful friends in PW, how I've found a way to help those who are in need in my community and across the world through mission projects and justice and peace initiatives, how my world has grown from my little community to a global level, and how I have grown spiritually through prayer and Bible study, just to name a few?

So with some of my story shared, here is my challenge to you: Tell one other person (or more if you are so moved) why you are involved with PW, what PW has given you, and what you have done through PW. Invite them to join your circle and invite them to our Winter Gathering via Zoom. Challenge them to taste us and see how good we are! I believe we don't tell our stories often enough and loud enough. And so I challenge you (as well as myself) to tell **your** PW story.

Shalom,

Martha



PWPSV extends our sympathy to the family and friends of Carla Mavis, Circleville. Carla died January 2 in a tragic automobile accident. She faithfully served for many years in many capacities in her churches, the Presbytery of Scioto Valley, and the Synod of the Covenant. Our hearts and prayers go out to all who knew her well.

From Susan Imel, Vice-Moderator for Justice and Peace

Justice and Peace Resources: What's New?

“Do what you can, with what you have, where you are,” the theme of the November/December issue of *Horizons*, could be the theme for the last two years. The pandemic has seriously curtailed many of the normal PW activities, including regular circle and bible study meetings. The availability of vaccines may have lessened restrictions but the virus has not gone away and the number of breakthrough infections calls for continuing caution.

Most of the justice and peace resources listed here are tailor made for doing “what we can, where we are” since they can be used by individuals or groups for learning more about topics, creating awareness, or advocacy.

- **Working for Justice and Peace Presbyterian Women 2022 Calendar.** This calendar lists events related to justice and peace and creates awareness about action days. Most entries include a website that can be consulted for further information and suggested actions.
<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/2022-justice-and-peace-calendar/>
- **Justice and Peace Book Discussion group.** Register to discuss books recommended by the Justice and Peace Committee of PW’s Board of Directors. Discussions are held every other month using Zoom. Or, create your own group and read and discuss the books listed on the flyer.
<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/JP-Book-Discussion-Group-Flier-11-12-21.pdf>
- **Thursdays in Black.** Thursdays in Black is a World Council of Churches initiative to protest violence against women and show support for the women who experience violence.
<https://www.oikoumene.org/what-we-do/thursdays-in-black> Also make some bookmarks to use as an awareness tool <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/thursdays-in-black-bookmark/>
- **Recommended Resources For Justice and Peace Concerns.** Resources—primarily books—are listed under categories such as gender justice, eco-justice, and antiracism.
<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/JP-resources-full-page-FA-05252021.pdf>
- **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.** Sources of information about the epidemic of missing/murdered indigenous women throughout the United States and Canada include Native Hope <https://www.nativehope.org/en-us/understanding-the-issue-of-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women>; Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women <https://www.csvanw.org/mmiw> and National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center <https://www.niwrc.org/>
- If you are unable to print any of the resources listed here, contact Susan Imel: susanime1@gmail.com 614-813-7875



JUST BE A GOOD PERSON,
love who you can,
HELP WHERE YOU CAN,
give what you can.

SHALOM 2022

During our CT meeting on January 8th, I was in charge of the devotions.

I can't believe that Christmas is over! The days after Christmas should not be sad or a downer! We just sang "Joy to the World"! But that's the way I was feeling. My Christmas tree fell down/fell over on New Year's Day morning! I put away my presents, I mopped up the spilled water. I swept up the broken ornaments. Now I have to take down the Nativity scene. It's too soon for Christmas to be over! Oh yeah, then there's the cold, snowy, dreary January! I feel incomplete. Christmas—and the anticipation that comes with it—suddenly felt far, far (350+ days far) away!

Adam R. Holz writes that a few years ago, as he was putting his Christmas stuff away, he realized:

"No matter what the calendar says, we're always one day closer to the next Christmas."

I like the sound of that! Not "far" but "closer".

As Christians, our Christmas celebration is based on one spiritual truth and one spiritual reality:

1. The salvation the Baby in the manger brought into this world and 2. The hope for His return.

The Bible tells us that we are watching, waiting, longing and hoping for Christ's second coming. The reality that "our citizenship is in heaven" (Philippians 3:20) changes everything, including what we hope for AND how we live. That hope is strengthened and fortified by the knowledge that with every passing day, we are indeed one day closer to Jesus' return. One day closer to the next Christmas.

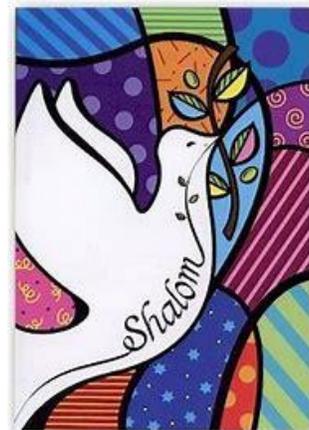
I remembered that when I was young, our Christmas decorations stayed up for at least a week after Christmas. So, when my tree fell down, it seemed that Christmas 2021, ended too soon. Why did I feel so incomplete?

After the Zoom meeting was over, I realized that I was waiting for the Magi! I was waiting for the Wise Men to visit the Baby in the manger! (Matthew 2) I had an epiphany! Some churches celebrate January 6th as The Day of Epiphany. I learned that the word EPIPHANEIA is Greek and is translated to mean "appearance" or "manifestation". Christmas is the appearance of Christ to the world as represented by the Magi.

Other words for epiphany are insight, inspiration, discovery, revelation, awakening or eye opener. The opposite of an epiphany is confusion and ignorance. When something suddenly becomes clear, it is an epiphany. I had experienced a sudden realization! The way I felt must have been what the Magi felt when they brought Him gifts! Jesus has come!

SHALOM 2022

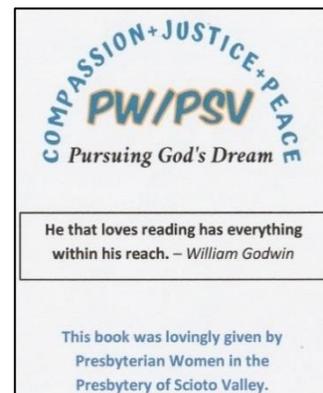
Vandadean Rogers
Vice-moderator for Studies and Spiritual Development



PW/PSV MISSION PROJECT – Lynn Coons, VM for Mission

Aka “Bucks for Books...and Games!”

We’ve done it – and we’re still doing it! We – all of us together! – gave (drum roll please!) (now sit down!) \$4,116.00! That’s right - \$4,116.00!!! Yes, you read that correctly - \$4,116.00 to provide lots of books and bookmarks, games, and Cheryl’s Cookies to FIVE of the detention centers that serve youth in our Presbytery. Originally, we thought we could only serve three – Perry Multi-County Juvenile Facility in New Lexington, Multi-County Juvenile Detention Center in Lancaster, and Ross County Juvenile Detention Center in Chillicothe. However, with the beautiful, beneficent gifts you made, it quickly became clear that we could also serve Central Ohio Youth Center in Marysville and Franklin County Juvenile Detention Center in Columbus. This project has truly become presbytery-wide!



Accordingly, we bought over 125 books (see bookplate sample above) and a good selection of games and balls while Cheryl’s Cookies **donated** four boxes of 100 individually wrapped cookies for New Lexington, Lancaster, Chillicothe, and Marysville. Unfortunately, we received the list from FCJDC too late to sort and sift and purchase their books so that will be accomplished before the end of January.

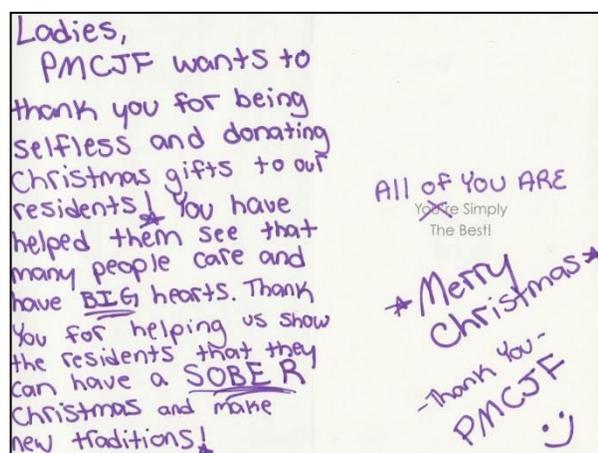


On Monday, December 13th, Martha Pool, Muriel Ballou and Steve Telfer headed first to Lancaster where they were very warmly received, in good part due to Steve’s strong ties there. Muriel was even able to speak with a couple of the youth while there. Then it was off to



New Lexington with Steve Telfer where they were also joyfully received. On the way to Chillicothe, Alice Harker met the group for the last delivery of the day. It was a long but rewarding day!

The following Monday, the 20th, Martha and Steve drove to Marysville to bring your gifts to the young people there! Theirs had been the least detailed list of books so we cobbled together a lovely bunch of books and games and they were thrilled with our munificence! The joy you brought to the four Detention Centers we were able to serve before Christmas was palpable as can be seen through these pictures taken at Lancaster and Chillicothe. Just arrived is this note from Perry Multi-County Juvenile Facility:



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU for your great generosity and outpouring of LOVE!!! SHALOM, in all its manifestations, was shared with these forgotten youth this Christmas Season. May God be praised!

Your Mission Interpretation Committee
Muriel Ballou, Lynn Coons, Ruth Cooper, Alice Harker

The Search Committee has begun the work of identifying women to share the warm friendship experienced by member of the Presbytery PW Coordinating Team. It is difficult to decide what you might have to contribute without some idea of what the various positions involve. Below you will find brief summaries of the positions that are open for your consideration, either as a possible nominee or a recommendation of a woman whose gifts may be just right for the role.

First, each member of the Coordinating Team (CT) attends in person or on Zoom five CT meetings and four Gatherings each year of a three year-term. The CT meetings, in addition of dealing with business, are planning meetings and each member serves on a Gathering Planning Team. The Moderator and Vice Moderators are leaders of the planning teams. Recently all meetings have been on Zoom because of the COVID viruses.

Vice Moderator for Studies and Spiritual Development provides information about the Horizons Bible Study and other resources for devotions and prayer at each of the gatherings and in four newsletters each year.

Communicator promotes Horizons Magazine and other resources available from Presbyterian Women from Louisville at gatherings and in the newsletter. Like to write? All the information is available online.

Resource Liaisons, two are needed. These women are the link for all the PW in churches. One Liaison is presently in the southern part of the Presbytery so it would be great to have someone in the center and in the north. If you enjoy talking with or occasionally visiting women in churches, this is for you.

We need two ***Members of the Search Committee*** to help identify nominees. It may be of interest to know that only the moderator must attend CT meetings although it is always fun to do so. Meetings of the Committee have been held on Zoom and can continue electronically if members wish.

Finally, the ***Registrar*** position involves taking reservations for gatherings, either emailed or mailed paper reservations, and preparing a list of registrants. For Zoom gatherings this list is given to the moderator, for in person gatherings, the registrar works with the treasurer greeting the women as they arrive at a church.

So what might you enjoy doing? Join us! Please send suggestions to any of the Committee:

Nancy Shuster nandshu@aol.com

Ruth Cooper c00pers@roadrunner.com

Louise Davidson lchdavidson011@gmail.com

Diane Boster dianebuster123@gmail.com

For making our Fall Mission Project dollars go so much further, we thank

For countless hours to determine which books to purchase and then giving a discount on all of them, tax-free!



For donating 500 wrapped cookies

Cheryl's[®]
cookies

And thanks be to God for the strong relationship between First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, and Steve Telfer and his ministry in the Juvenile Detention Centers of our Presbytery.

Quarterly Statement
PW/PSV 2021

Mission Income	Fourth Qtr	YTD
Mission Pledge	1,863.75	16,491.03
Thank Offering	4,806.05	5,932.05
Birthday Offering	200.00	2,091.89
Honorary Life Membership	0.00	190.00
Fellowship of Least Coin	108.80	302.28
Total Mission Income	6,978.60	25,007.25

Mission Disbursements	Fourth Qtr	YTD
PC/USA Mission	1,491.75	13,193.43
PC/USA Thank Offering	4,806.05	5,932.05
PC/USA Birthday Offering	200.00	2,091.89
PC/USA Least Coin	108.80	302.38
PC/USA HLM	0.00	190.00
SOC	186.00	1,648.80
PSV	186.00	1,648.80
Total Mission Disbursements	6,978.60	25,007.35

PW/PSV Mission Project	Fourth Qtr	YTD
Income		
Mission Project Income	4,116.00	4,116.00
Disbursements		
Mission Project Money Out	1,470.90	1,470.90
Balance		2,645.10

Summary of all PW/PSV Funds:

Balance as of 12/31/21 \$5,896.53
2 Certificates of Deposit \$2,600.00
SubTotal: \$8,496.53

Designated funds:

Mission Projects: \$2,645.10
Churchwide Gathering
Scholarships: \$3,000.00
\$ 5,645.10

SubTotal Minus Designated Funds:

\$8,496.53-\$5,645.10 + \$ 2,851.43

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Shuster, PW treasurer

Quarterly Statement
PW/PSV 2021

Balance Forward	3,369.87		
PW/PSV Operating Income	Fourth Qtr	YTD	Budget
PW/SOC Operating Funds 3%	91.05	349.55	600
PW/PSV Operating Funds 7%	212.45	1,195.95	1,700.00
Gathering Offerings	50.00	250.00	1,200.00
Registration	0.00	0.00	750.00
Donations	0.00	625.00	350.00
Total Operating Income	353.50	2,420.50	
Total Operating Income + Balance	7,839.37	(Balance includes Mizziann Project Funds)	

PW/PSV Operating Expenses	Fourth Qtr	YTD	Budget
PW/SOC	0.00	481.42	600.00
Gathering Expenses	250.00	500.00	1,000.00
HLM from PW/PSV	0.00	95.00	95.00
Newsletter Printing	100.00	712.62	300.00
Newsletter Postage	97.94	405.89	250.00
Yearbook/ Directory	0.00	228.37	250.00
CT Mileage	0.00	0.00	200.00
Audit	0.00	0.00	200.00
Churchwide Gathering	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
PW Materials (Packets) Postage	0.00	0.00	150.00
Misc Printing (Gathering Program)	0.00	0.00	150.00
Misc	24.00	632.25	205.00
Total Operating Expenses	471.94	3,055.55	
Balance Carried Forward	5,896.53	(Balance includes Mizziann Project Funds)	

PW Coordinating Team 2021-2022

Martha Pool, Moderator
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Jane McKee
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(h) 740-763-2002

Diane Boster
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2022 Proposed Budget for PW/PSV

INCOME

Balance Brought Forward	\$2800.00
PW/PSV Pledges (7% of \$15,000)	\$1050.00
PW/SOC Pledges (3% of \$15,000)	\$450.00
Offerings	\$400.00
Registrations	\$400.00
Donations.....	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$5300.00

DISBURSEMENTS

PW/SOC	\$495.00
Gatherings	\$1300.00
Zoom Account	\$160.00
Honorary Life Membership	\$95.00
Newsletter Printing.....	\$400.00
Program Printing.....	\$300.00
Newsletter Postage.....	\$400.00
Printing Yearbook/Directories (200).....	\$250.00
CT Mileage.....	\$200.00
Churchwide Gathering Reserve	\$1000.00
Audit.....	\$200.00
Women's Concerns.....	\$100.00
Miscellaneous	\$400.00
TOTAL	\$5300.00

The budget is scheduled to be voted upon during the winter Gathering on February 26 so please review the items. If you have any questions, please contact Moderator Martha Pool or treasurer, Nancy Shuster for clarification.

Are you prepared for the next disaster?

Most of you are aware of three weather-related disasters/emergency situations that occurred since the beginning of December:

Dec 10 – A violent, long-tracked tornado moved across Western Kentucky and several other states during the night leaving 78 persons killed

Dec 30 – Marshall Fire and Middle Fork Fire in Colorado destroyed nearly 1100 homes and structures in the most destructive wildfire in state history

Jan 3 – A major snowstorm produced power outages and left hundreds of drivers stuck for upwards of 24 hours or caused them to crash on roadways around Washington D.C.

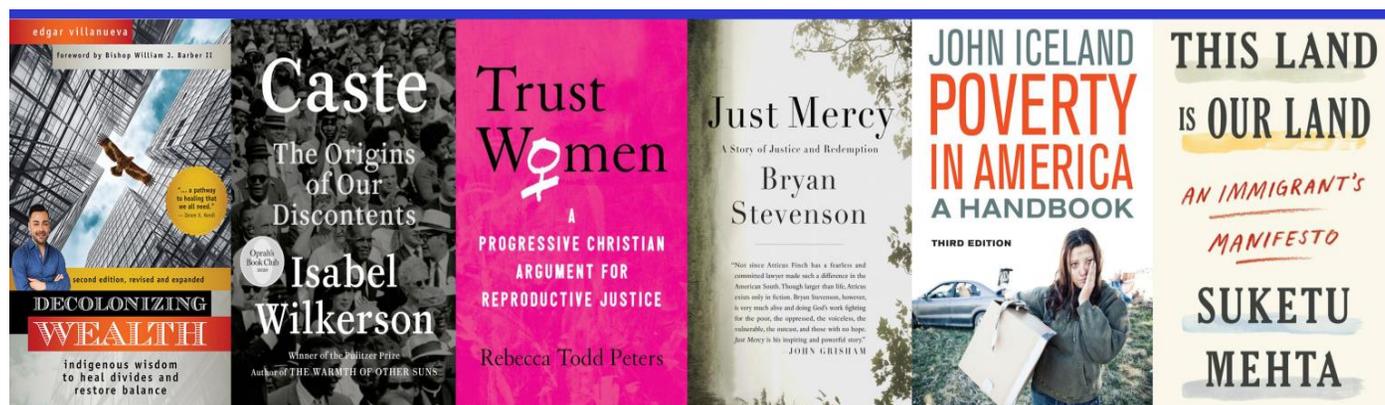
If you had been caught in any one of these situations, would you have been prepared to evacuate or have the necessary items with you to survive? Or do you think you are above the need to prepare for disasters like these? Think again, please.

If you would like more information on disaster preparedness, Martha Pool and Susan Imel have been trained by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to come to your church or circle to share how to become prepared for disasters. (find their contact info on page 7)

Horizons Offer: Buy One Subscription, Get One Free

With this special offer (and for a very limited time only), you can now give one gift subscription to *Horizons* and get one FREE! For just \$24.95, you can give two gifts for the price of one! With each one-year subscription, your gift recipients will receive five issues of the magazine (in print and digital) plus the award-winning *PW/Horizons* Bible study (mailed in March 2022).—**this offer expires March 2022!**

Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc. Justice & Peace Book Discussion Group



For more information, go to the Presbyterian Women PCUSA website and click on the Justice and Peace icon. Registration information, dates, and times of the Zoom discussion group is listed.

