

Quarterly Newsletter
for Presbyterian Women Leaders
"PW 101" Series

If you are so moved to share an idea or two that you think should be part of this series, please [email carissa.herold@pcusa.org](mailto:carissa.herold@pcusa.org).

PW 101.4:
PW Connectionalism Mirrors That of Church

It is said that Presbyterians approach every task in a way that is decent, in good order, and in community. That helps us better understand why our denomination *and* Presbyterian Women are organized at all levels of the church: congregation, presbytery (made up of several congregations in a region), synod (made up of several presbyteries), and church wide (or national). This connectional system allows ideas and information to flow through the organization, strengthening the ministry and mission of all.

Our connectional system is undergirded with roles and responsibilities assumed by those called to lead and participate at each level. The circle, at the congregational level, is the foundation of PW, and informs and responds to the ministry of PW. PW at each level is led by a coordinating team.

For more information, order the *PW Manual: A Guide for PW Groups* at www.presbyterianwomen.org/shop (\$6.00/item PWR16120).

**Presbyterian Women (PW)
Celebrates 30th Anniversary**

**2018 Church-wide Gathering of PW
August 2-5, 2018
Louisville, KY**



**Candlelight Dinner
in Fellowship Hall**

*Followed by a program in our Sanctuary
Offering will be collected for CAC*

***A Christmas Wonder
for You***

**Tuesday, December 12, 2017
6:30 p.m.**

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**Presbyterian Women
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
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**PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN**

**POWERFUL KNOWLEDGE TO
EMPOWER WOMEN**

WINTER QUARTER 2017

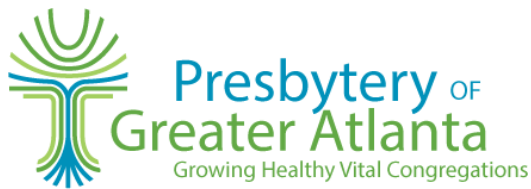
**PW 101.3: The Mission Pledge: PW's
Annual Fund**

Presbyterian Women's annual fund is the Mission Pledge. The Mission Pledge makes possible PW at all levels of the church: from local and regional to national! (More about PW in the presbyteries, synods and church-wide in the next newsletter.)

PW is independently funded; that means that the gifts you give to your church or to the PC(USA) do not provide for Presbyterian Women. Gifts given to Presbyterian Women, however, do support the work of the PC(USA) in multiple ways because PW supports the work of the PC(USA) in multiple ways. Financial gifts to the Mission Pledge, PW's annual fund, are often collected in PWC circle meetings. There are other ways to give (online, by check, and through estate planning).

*Presbyterian women are always encouraged
to give as we are blessed!*

See www.presbyterianwomen.org/missionpledge for more information.



<http://www.atlpcusa.org/pw.html>

Mount Vernon District Report Winter 2017: Pat Barte, Moderator

- **Kickoff Luncheon** Aug.27- Introduced women of the church to all the circles, special events, and new community mission projects for the year.
- **Residual funds from 2016-2017** were distributed to five local ministries. Bylaws, which were updated last year were approved. The Mission Pledge was added to the annual budget. The Thank Offering projects were shared in the fall and the offering taken in November.
- **Startup of two new, non-traditional circles**-Knitting Circle (purpose: to supply scarves for the church youth program's homeless outreach; intergenerational) and Twenty Something Circle (purpose: to provide fellowship for our youngest women; activities may include hiking and community service)
- **In September and October all traditional circles** (Day Circle and Sunday Circle) **and non-traditional circles** (Book Circle, Circle of Grace, Knitting Circle, and Twenty Something Circle) **had their initial meetings.**
- **First Community Mission project** was a collection of teen and children's clothing for Mission Haven done with the assistance of the church youth group. Baskets of startup household supplies are gathered and delivered to families graduating from Family Promise on a year-long basis.

MVPC PW 63 Years Strong! Linda Bhame, Spiritual Growth

Mt Vernon Presbyterian Church was first formed in 1954 and met in an old house on the present property.

The Burdett Mansion was a once grand and stately house and those early members were glad to have it BUT it had no working kitchen. Without a kitchen it was not possible to have fellowship meals or even a cup of coffee.

So in order to 'grow' the young church the women of the church took action in 1955. They had bake sales and yard sales to raise money for a kitchen. Yes, they managed to raise \$500 to renovate that old kitchen. In today's money that would probably be \$5000!

Then it was possible to include food in the many fellowship activities of the young and growing church. Then and now Presbyterian Women are active at Mt Vernon through loving, caring, and serving others.

They took seriously Jesus' message about being good disciples by helping others.

WHAT WE ARE READING

Book Circle:

"Speaking of Sin: The Lost Language of Salvation"

by Barbara Brown Taylor

Day Circle:

"Soul Feast: An Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life" by Marjorie J. Thompson

Sunday Circle:

"Simple Abundance-A Daybook of Comfort and Joy" by Sarah Ann Breathnach

New MVPC Logo TEAMWORK



We're excited to announce a conference coming next October called **Better Angels: Using the Power of Community to Change the World**. Better Angels is the next installment in a series of conferences exploring topics which fall at the intersection of culture and spirituality.

The conference will focus on understanding power and privilege, and their relationship to the Gospel, society, and our daily lives. Conference attendees will examine the power that we hold institutionally, challenge the ways that power is used, look at the role that churches can play in public discourse, and learn some community practices that can be used to counter polarization.



It's not too early to begin planning for the February 2018 Presbytery Women's Retreat. Calvin Center is an excellent place to commune with sisters in spirit, relax, recharge, and rejuvenate. Ideas for breakout sessions - Resources Kelly Weirich, 770-939-5548, kelysings@gmail.com