

Quarterly Newsletter

for Presbyterian Women Leaders

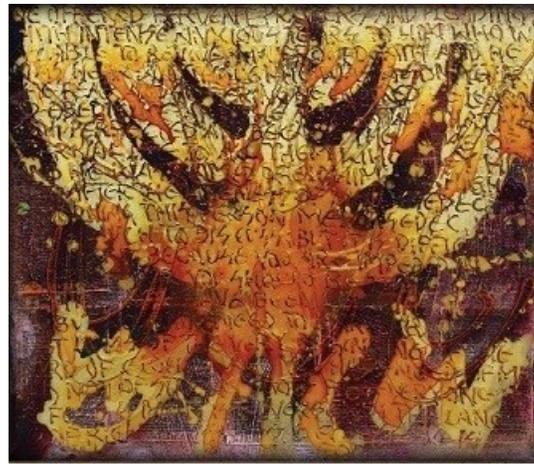
<http://www.pcusa.org/resource/pw-quarterly-newsletter-second-quarter-2017>

"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.

PW 101.2: PW Circles and their

Leadership: Presbyterian Women meet at the congregation level in "circles." No matter what the activities, as long as women meet to build community, support mission, nurture faith and/or work for justice and peace, those women are forming a "circle." No matter how many or how few activities a women's circle undertakes, if they do it on behalf of the PW Purpose (see last newsletter), they are a PW circle. Leadership in single-circle groups at the congregational level ideally consists of a moderator (to provide leadership to the circle and ensure communication among the members and with the congregation and session); a secretary/historian to record the work of the circle; and a treasurer to maintain the financial records of the circle. *But PW is flexible!* Circles don't have to be called circles and a team can have leaders who "wear more than one [leadership] hat."



2017 - 2018 Horizons Bible Study, Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews, by Melissa Bane Sevier.

Dr. Joe B. Martin IV
Bible Study Leader

The Day Circle (meets the second Tues. at 10:00am in the Kirk Center) and the Sunday Circle (meets the second Sun. after the 11:00am worship service in the Session Room) will be participating in the 2017 - 2018 Horizons Bible Study, Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews, by Melissa Bane Sevier. The nine sessions within the study are tied together by the theme of community, and participants will have opportunities to reflect how to connect this theme "back home" in their own settings. The study books (cost \$10.) will be available for purchase at the PW Kickoff Luncheon on August 27th and in the Narthex, after our Sunday Services, beginning Sept. 3rd.

Presbyterian Women
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
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PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

POWERFUL KNOWLEDGE TO
EMPOWER WOMEN

FALL QUARTER 2017

PW 101.1: The PW Purpose

The foundation for all that Presbyterian Women is and does is the PW Purpose, our mission statement.

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 (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



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

Mount Vernon District Report Summer 2017:

- Reactivated the Circle of Grace for younger to mid-life women, and nineteen women have attended at least one meeting.
- Collaborated with Peachtree Presbyterian and two Jewish women's organizations and collected and sorted gently-worn jewelry for the Mother's Day Shoppe in four low income elementary schools; organized, collected, and delivered spring clothing to Mission Haven; collected start-up baskets for families moving into housing after Family Promise.
- For global missions, held a lunch in February to hear about Jan Heckler's work in Madagascar. Sold Mother's Day cards for missions.
- Spring Retreat in April titled "Pathways to Joy," led by district leader, Gwynne Mesimer.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/dfc_attachments/public/documents/3239418/Pathways_Summer_2017_v2.pdf

The Synod of South Atlantic

(Fla., Ga., and S.C.)

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For church professionals and lay people, Columbia's Center for Lifelong Learning provides non-degree courses and events—opportunities to learn with and from others for faithful discipleship. Led by top-notch seminary faculty, our offerings are biblically and theologically grounded, with a practical focus to help participants identify and address specific, real-life needs. At the same time, we see lifelong learning as recreation—time to step out of life's busy routines and experience renewal of mind, spirit, body, and emotion. We hope you will browse through our website to find out more about opportunities that are available for you.

<https://www.ctsnet.edu/lifelong-learning/>

Timely Topics and Conversations

October 10-12 Yes, and: Improvisational Leadership in Times of Dizzying Change
Leadership can be scary and risky. So can improv! But having improv skills can make leadership easier. Take it from "No, but..." to "Yes, and..." as we practice embodied leadership. Extroverts and introverts welcomed! Challenge yourself to see how improv skills can improve your church leadership.

October 15-18 Texts of Terror (Montreat Conference Center) Not all texts in the Bible are easy to read. There are passages in our Scriptures about conquest and holy war, divine vengeance

and ethnic bias, domestic violence and gendered hierarchy. For many contemporary readers, these so-called "texts of terror" raise a number of ethical and theological problems.

May 15, 2018 APPLICATION DEADLINE for Certificate in Spiritual Direction The Spirituality Program is accepting applications for the 2018-20 Cohort of the Certificate in Spiritual Direction. The 2.5-year program offers a hybrid curriculum of four one-week residencies with online components and an 18 month supervised practicum.

Online:

Sept. 11– October 6, 2017 Readings in Spiritual Classics (online) In this course, we will dialogue with saints from the ages, who, as a great cloud of witnesses, cheer us on. Reading selections from the writings of Thomas à Kempis, Julian of Norwich, Jonathan Edwards and Evelyn Underhill, students will reflect through online posts on what they have read.

<https://www.ctsnet.edu/network/presbyterian-women/>

**PW Celebrates 30th Anniversary
2018 Churchwide Gathering of PW
August 2-5, 2018 in Louisville, Ky.**

<http://pma.pcusa.org/ministries/pw.html>