

PW 101.7 has been delayed, along with the Fall Qtr. National Newsletter in order to include events at the 30th Anniv. Gathering. We are beginning a series from National on:

THE HISTORY OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Presbyterian Women's predecessor organizations began more than 200 years ago when women had no role outside the home. In spite of numerous societal restrictions, the women's organizations gained respect, especially that of missionaries in the field who requested women's donations and prayers. In the mid-1800s, with civil strife in the nation, the church split; it would be many years before the wounds were healed and the northern and southern branches of the church were reunited. The work of Presbyterian women varied with the cultural backgrounds of North and South. Despite regional differences, Presbyterian women have always been in the forefront of national movements. Presbyterian women have long advocated for women and children, and crusaded for the right to fair, paid work for African Americans, Native Americans, people of Appalachia and immigrants. They went into the field to actively do something about a host of other societal problems. In the late 1800s the mission work of Presbyterian women broadened to include areas in Alaska and San Francisco, with a particular focus on Asian women. By answering God's call, women's work in the church and in society was validated, and the role of women in both foreign and home missions expanded throughout the 19th century. In 1872 the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in North America (UPCNA) asked women members to devise some way to systematically raise money to support women missionaries in the field. In 1875 Sarah Foster Hanna spoke to the General Assembly and received permission to establish the first national organization for women in a Presbyterian denomination, the Women's General Missionary Society. Southern women were more hesitant about organizing a churchwide missionary society; it took the women of the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS) more than 26 years to get permission to set up a national women's organization, Women of the Church. Presbyterian women's financial support of missions was phenomenal and included the Thank Offering (begun in 1888) and the Birthday Offering (begun in 1922), both of which continue today.

LOVING GOD IN DIFFERENT WAYS

SUNDAY AND DAY CIRCLE PRESENTATIONS

OCTOBER

FEED MY SHEEP

**Elizabeth Small
Director of Youth Ministry
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church**

According to the Homeless Task Force, more than 10,000 experience homelessness in any given night. The Youth Group at MVPC started a ministry to feed some of those people in January of 2001. Hear stories of people they have encountered and what they have learned - not just about homelessness, but about themselves and about God - through their experiences as shared by Elizabeth Small. What should we as Christians be doing to help end this problem?

THROUGH THE YEARS

Presbyterian Women's Thank Offering is received annually in the fall. This offering gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. Gifts from Presbyterian Women have made possible hundreds of projects, addressing issues such as agricultural development, child care, community organization, criminal justice, drug counseling, economic justice, elderly care, employment training, homelessness, literacy, violence and women's concerns. At least 40 percent of this offering supports health ministries throughout the world. The remaining 60 percent funds new creative ideas for mission.

See link below for a list of the projects funded 1988-2016.

Thank Offering Through the Years
<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Thank-Offering-Projects-1988.2016.xls>

**Presbyterian Women
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
471 Mt. Vernon Hwy, NE
Sandy Springs, GA 30328
404-255-2211**



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

POWERFUL KNOWLEDGE TO EMPOWER WOMEN

FALL QUARTER 2018

LOVING GOD IN DIFFERENT WAYS

SUNDAY AND DAY CIRCLE PRESENTATIONS

SEPTEMBER

LOVING GOD THROUGH MUSIC

**TJ Shirley
Minister of Worship and Arts
Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church**

When Christians first started assembling to praise God in worship, music was an integral part of their meetings. Due to the central role it has always played, music has been celebrated and fought over throughout the centuries of the church. Music has acted as a hindrance to reformation in the church and has also served as a vehicle through which the church has renewed herself. This month, we will be examining the place music has in our individual and corporate spirituality and how the past can inform our practices in the present and in the future.

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

**Mount Vernon District Report
Fall 2018: Sarah Chalpan, Moderator**

- Had a successful June Salad Supper. Inducted new CT officers for 2018-19. Faye Cashwell, District 1 Leader, honored us by attending.
- Awarded Honorary Life Membership to Pat Barteo who has just completed a productive two-year term as moderator and been instrumental in helping establish two new circles.
- Moderator/Treasurer training on June 16 at Clairmont Presbyterian Church was attended by Sarah Chalpan and Pat Davis.
- Published 4 issues of our own Quarterly Newsletter which incorporates a variety of topics that would be of interest to our women. The Fall 2018 issue will be coming out early September. This ambitious undertaking has been designed and implemented by our current CT Resource officer, Dee Bradford-Smith.
- Developed by our CT Spiritual Growth officer, Linda Bhame, a series of Circle Lessons/Presentations that are to be presented by our wonderful ministers and members of PW. The theme for our lessons this year is "Loving God in Different Ways". Lessons for the Fall include: history of music in worship, our homeless ministry and caregiving for family, congregation and self.
- Donated over two thousand dollars to National, International Presbyterian USA PW and local Atlanta Presbytery missions.
- Currently have 5 circles that will be continuing this year: Book Circle, Circle of Grace, Day Circle, Sunday Circle, and Knitting Circle. The Circle of Grace and the Knitting Circle were established last year under the leadership of Pat Barteo and circle leaders, Meg Christian, Lisa Cumming and Sylvia McAdam.
- Will oversee a Cake Walk at our end of Summer/beginning of Fall church BBQ On August 12 to raise funds for MVPC PW and publicize our Circle lessons for this year.
- Participated by helping out our Congregation Care Ministry by providing meals and visitation to some of our PW members in need.

**MVPC PW 63 Years Strong!
Linda Bhame, Spiritual Growth**

In 1980 Women of the Church began work on the church paraments at Rev. Asa Meadows direction to include symbols of the church year. Over 20 women volunteered their needlework skills to make 6 sets of paraments and embroider the symbolic images on each set. After this the wedding paraments were completed.

Next was a 2 year project to make needlepoint coverings for the 12 elder benches at the communion table. Each bench included a shield with the symbol for each of the 12 apostles. Eleven women worked many hours to complete the bench covers we see in the sanctuary. A booklet explaining the symbols is available in the church office.

**PW Celebrated the 30th Anniversary
2018 Churchwide Gathering of PW
August 2-5, 2018 in Louisville, KY
Here are some shared takaways from this
grand event!**

One of the fun community-building activities available at the 2018 Churchwide Gathering was participation in book discussion groups! Three books were chosen for these discussions;

Change of Heart:

**Justice, Mercy and Making Peace
with My Sister's Killer**

by Jeanne Bishop

Little Fires Everywhere

A Novel by Celeste Ng

**Strangers in their Own Land—Anger and
Mourning on the American Right:**

**A Journey to the Heart of Our Political
Divide**

by Arlie Russell Hochschild



**LOVING GOD IN DIFFERENT
WAYS**

SUNDAY CIRCLE PRESENTATION

NOVEMBER

**CAREGIVING FOR FAMILY
AND SELF**

**Dee Bradford-Smith
PW Resources and Leader
Development
Mount Vernon Presbyterian
Church**

Raina Nadler

Elderlaw Attny

<http://www.rainanadlerlaw.com/>

Daphne Reiley ~ Author

*A Tapestry of Love, the
Spirituality of Caregiving*

<https://atapestryoflove.com/>

DAY CIRCLE PRESENTATION

NOVEMBER

**Peggy Barrett, MSW
Registered Representative,
TransAmerica/World
Financial Group
Owner, 2nd Life Consulting
<http://www.2ndlifecounseling.com/>**

**Michael K. Johnson, LCSW,
C-ASWCM, ACHT
Vice President and COO
Licensed Clinical Social
Worker and Certified Aging
Life Care Manager
www.MettaJohnson.com**

**(Professional Bios available in
the Narthex)**