

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany 2018 annual report to the Presbytery of Albany

Acting Moderator: *Charlotte Hasselbarth*

Programs

Our Spring Gathering was at First Presbyterian Church in Valatie. The speaker was Rhonda Sanchez, the representative from the Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast to the 2016 USA Mission Experience Trip to San Francisco. 18 people attended, including 1 person who doesn't belong to a PW group and 2 people from Liberia who had been visiting relatives of a member born in Liberia. Freewill offering of \$100 went to "Mercy Beyond Borders"

Our Fall Gathering was at West Charlton United Presbyterian Church, speaker was Virginia Champlin, the Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast representative to the 2017 Global Exchange trip to Indonesia and Rev. Kathi Jones, Voting Representative from Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany reported on the Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering. 21 women attended. 2 were first time attendees. A freewill offering of \$110 went to support Rev. Cathy Chang, Mission Co-Worker in the Philippines. Personal hygiene items were collected for the Greater Galway Community Food Pantry.

Active Presbyterian Women in the Congregation groups: 8

Women's groups that are not official PW groups but participate in some way: 2

New initiatives this year

- our Voting Representative to the Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Business Meeting was a first time attendee
- \$1150 in \$10 gift cards and cash (to purchase gift cards) was collected from people though out the Presbytery, not just PW members. 115 gift cards were taken to the Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering.
- our 2019 Spring Gathering has been planned to be in at Avila Retirement Community, rather than at a church
- we supplied a letter of endorsement for a Thank Offering applicant
- PW was represented at all Presbytery meetings
- a clergywoman, Rev. Kathi Jones has joined our Steering Committee

Presbyterian Women in the Congregation Groups

Presbyterian Women in First Presbyterian Church in Valatie

- held a monthly Bible Study, using the *Horizon* Bible Study
- supported the *Fellowship of the Least Coin* Offering
- supported the *Birthday* and *Thank Offerings* and publicized to the congregation
- host and support *Warm-Up America!*, a group of community members who knit and crochet afghans and other warm articles of clothing that are given to local community groups.
- annual Mitten Tree to benefit the *Hudson Day-Care Center*, larger sizes go to the local school district.
- planned annual *Gifts of Women* worship service, led by PW using the resources found in the *Horizons* magazine
- new initiative this year: establishment of the PW Book Club Circle (PWbcc), which met once a month in a home for fellowship, food and discussion

Westminster Presbyterian Women

- started paying monthly, voluntary dues
- gave tokens gifts to about 5 of our members who experienced the death of a close family member
- hosted a dinner for 8 visitors from church's partners in Tema, Ghana, the host committee and others
- visited some senior members who are unable to attend church
- purchased groceries and cooked meals for a beloved elderly church member who died and assisted with refreshments for her Memorial Service
- submitted a letter of endorsement for a local organization, *The MoonCatcher Project* for a 2019 PW Thank Offering Grant
- participated in our church's *African Family Night*, 2 WPW members were the co-chairs the event

- provided transportation and baby items for a church attendee from Ghana, WPW officer Mary Green was the sponsor when the child was baptized
- were represented at both the Spring and Fall Gatherings of Albany PW
- evaluated some Bible Study materials that we hope to use for future meetings

Presbyterian Women in Mayfield Central Presbyterian Church

- held about 8 meetings for planning and discussion
- held two rummage sales
- hosted a Mother-Daughter Banquet
- hosted *A PW Night in Liberia Dinner*: fundraiser for *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance* and the *Liberian Christian School*, invited women throughout the Presbytery
- hosted luncheons at the *Quilt Show* and *Grannie's Attic Craft Fair*
- held a bake sale and had a booth *Grannies Attic Craft Fair*.
- knitted hats, mittens and prayer shawls, plus made baby quilts and sewed reusable feminine hygiene supplies for the *MoonCatchers Project*
- sent care packages to our college students and military people.
- provided refreshments after the Baccalaureate Service
- provided refreshments after funerals

Presbyterian Women in Hudson Falls Presbyterian Church

- our *Prayer Shawl* group met once a month, 157 shawls made this year
- *Anything You Want to Bring Craft Night* was held once a month
- . hosted a luncheon for women in the church at a local café
- . honored a member as *Woman of the Year*
- gift cards, bus tokens and baby supplies were purchased for the Church Office for emergencies
- donated \$1,000 to our *Lift Fund*
- *The Summer Vacation From the Black Lagoon* books were given to all 2nd graders at a local elementary school
- Mother's Day and Father's Day cakes purchased for coffee hours

- Paid 50% of salary for our nursery attendant
- made a \$500 donation to the Trustees for use at the Manse
- made donation to charities in memory of members who passed away
- helped with a reception for a church member
- sponsored 2 Rummage Sales
- held an Installation dinner for board members
- shopped for *Operation Santa*
- made donations to several local charitable groups

Presbyterian Women in Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church

- used the *Horizon's* Bible Studies
- maintained an email prayer group
- collected for the *Thank Offering, Birthday Offering, and Fellowship of the Least*
- donated to *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance* and *The Haiti Mission School*
- sponsored two *Mission-Minded Meals*, where a freewill offering is taken
- provided Easter Baskets for the *New Faith Family Center*, the *Family Life Center*, and a *Living Resource, Inc.* group home and church staff
- sponsored our *Annual Ash Wednesday Soup and Sandwich Supper*
- sold *Church World Service* blankets
- Donated \$200 worth of gift cards to the Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering's mission projects
- collected mittens, hats, scarves and gloves for our *Mitten Tree Project* for distribution to people at the *New Faith Family Center*, the *Schenectady City Mission*, a *Living Resources, Inc.* group home and the *Guilderland Interfaith Food Pantry*
- purchased Christmas gifts for a woman and child at the *New Faith Family Center* and residents at a *Living Resources, Inc.* group home
- sent Christmas cards to our congregation's college students and a young adult in the military, plus others to remember
- packed Christmas cookies for people to remember and church staff
- gave monetary gifts to church staff an Christmas

- collected flip-flops, athletic socks and detergent for *the Capital Area Council of Churches Emergency Overflow Shelter*
- collected broken and used crayons for the *Crayon Initiative*
- maintained collection boxes for personal items for the *New Faith Family Center* at the *Capital City Rescue Mission*
- promoted the collection of feminine hygiene products for the *Guilderland Interfaith Food Pantry*
- gave financial support to one *Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry* student to participate in a mission trip to Houston, Texas,
- wrote Christmas cards to women and children detained at the US/ Mexico border
- attended the Spring and Fall Gatherings of PW of Albany Presbytery
- attended *A PW Night In Liberia*, sponsored by Presbyterian Women at Mayfield Central Presbyterian Church
- promoted events sponsored by *Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast* and provided financial assistance to one member to attend
- sponsored an *Afternoon Hands on Mission Experience*, making prayer shawls
- provided organizational support for a *Women's Retreat* from women in our church

Wiawaka (Native American for Women of the Church)

Schoharie United Presbyterian Church

- held monthly meetings, which included a dinner and program (topic or Bible discussion)
- participated in *Samaritan's Purse*, by filling boxes for children in the church's After School Program
- held an auction, proceeds were used to purchase paper goods and cleaning supplies for the church
- paid for cleaning the carpeting in the church
- gave financial support to PW in the Presbytery
- purchased Christmas gifts and food for a family of 7
- sponsored fellowship events
- sponsored a night out at a local restaurant

- coordinated flowers for the church
- purchased Christmas wreaths for the front doors of the church

West Charlton United Presbyterian Church Women's Association

- held monthly Bible Study, Sept. - June, except October and April.
- April Dinner Meeting, speaker was Sharon Bellamy on *Leather Stocking Honor Flights*
- October Dinner Meeting, speaker was Ava M. Martin, Director of Philanthropy and Volunteer Engagement, with *Captain Community Human Services*
- hosted Fall PW/ Albany Gathering
- *Thank Offering Sunday*: entire service led by women, with a bake sale afterward to fund PW mission projects.
- *Blankets Plus Sunday* was on Mother's Day.
- collected for Fellowship of Least Coin
- gave financial support to *Domestic Violence and Rape Crisis Services in Saratoga*

Presbyterian Women in Northville United Presbyterian Church

- collected for the *Thank Offering* and *Least Coin Offering*, plus *Presbyterian World Hunger Program*
- supported the *Bread of Life Food Pantry*
- purchased 1 piglet and 2 flocks of chickens from *Presbyterian Giving Catalog* as a Christmas gift for the Sunday School
- filled *Cheer Boxes* for shut ins
- collected school supplies and cash for the *Northville Central* and *Edinburg Common Schools*
- made a financial donation to the *Fulmont Community Action Center*



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Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany 2018 Financial Report

Balance January 31, 2018		1483.39
Income:		
Donations congregational PW groups and supporter	315.00	
Registration Spring Gathering 18@ 5.00	90.00	
Freewill offering Spring Gathering	100.00	
Registration Fall Gathering 21 @ 5.00	105.00	
Freewill offering Fall Gathering	110.00	
Donations for gift cards for Churchwide Gathering	<u>555.00</u>	
Total Income	1275.00	2758.39
Expenditures:		
Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast	100.00	
Cambridge United PC for their Guatemala trip	100.00	
Spring Gathering Speaker – Rhonda Sanchez	50.00	
Mercy Beyond Borders	100.00	
Rev Kathi Jones – Voting Representative to Churchwide Gathering	500.00	
Rev Kathi Jones to purchase gift cards for Churchwide Gathering	555.00	
Fall Gathering speaker – Virginia Champlin	50.00	
Cathy Chang – missionary in Indonesia	<u>110.00</u>	
Total Expenditures:	1565.00	
Balance December 31, 2018		1193.39

Rosalie Hemingway, Treasurer