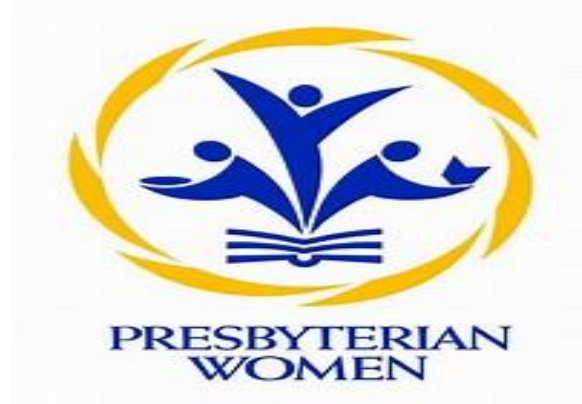


Albany Presbyterian Women's Newsletter

"He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way" Psalm 25:9

Winter 2023



Message from the Moderator

by Charlotte Hasselbarth

I have two pieces of good news. Both point to a fruitful future for Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany.

I am very happy to announce that a new Moderator will be Installed at our Spring Gathering. Andrea Ralph will be taking over the role. She is member of Roessleville Presbyterian Church. Andrea has been on the PW in the Albany Presbytery Coordinating Team for several years as a member at large and then as our newsletter editor.

The second piece of news is that the Moderator of PW in our Presbytery will now have a spot on the Presbytery Coordination Committee. This is the leadership group for the Presbytery, which consists of presbytery officers, executive staff, and presbytery committee chairs. This will give us greater exposure in the Presbytery. We will be able to receive information that may be of benefit to us, earlier than we have in the past. We have a lot to offer the Albany Presbytery. When our General Presbyter, Rob Trawick spoke at our Fall Gathering, he mentioned that we have a sense of community that the Presbytery is hoping to develop more fully.

I am grateful for the experience of being your Moderator. It has been wonderful to get to know so many women in the different congregations.

Upcoming Events

Wed, Feb 22, 10 – about 1 1:30 am: Ash Wednesday Retreat at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church in Scarsdale and on Zoom. Rev. Katherine Pater, Associate Pastor at Hitchcock Presbyterian Church will speak on Sin, Atonement & Justice. This event is sponsored by Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of the Hudson

Tues, April. 18, 11:30 am – 2:30 pm: Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery

Fri, July 14, 3 pm - Sat, July 15, 3 pm: Presbyterian Women in the Synod in the Northeast Triennial Gathering

Late Oct, date and time TBA: Wizards Wardrobe Tour

Date and Location, TBA: Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery Fall Gathering

Thurs Aug 8, Sat. Aug 11: Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering in St. Louis, Missouri

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast Triennial Gathering Stony Point Center

"I O U: INWARD, OUTWARD, UPWARD"
FRIDAY, JULY 14 - SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023 - 3 PM TO 3 PM

INWARD: Bible Study

OUTWARD: Mission

UPWARD: Worship

Featuring:

- The Rev. Dr. SanDawna Gaulman Ashley, Transitional Northeast Synod Leader, as Keynote Speaker
- The Rev. Kathy Reeves, Moderator of Churchwide PW, as Leader of Worship and Installation of new CT
- *Horizons* Bible Study for 2023-2024
- Mission Speaker and Mission Opportunities
- Skit on "Women of the Bible"
- Ice Cream Social

In the meantime, look at the PW Symbol and see I O U.

Registration Information will be coming soon.

Financial News

Presbyterian Women (PW) in the Presbytery of Albany are proud of the generosity of the women in our Presbytery who stepped up enabling us to make large contributions to special charitable requests in 2022. At our Spring Gathering \$1426 was donated to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund for Ukraine. Our Fall Gathering freewill offering brought in \$379 to support the Rural Women's Assembly, an event sponsored by the Rural Migrant Ministry that brings rural women together with resources that can assist them. The special fundraiser for the MoonCatcher Project yielded \$3265.

In September the sewing collective building in Chituka, Malawi, sponsored by the MoonCatcher's Project was broken into and sewing machines, fabrics, and completed menstrual kits were stolen. One of our women quickly offered a matching grant up to \$2000 to raise money to replace those items. She ended up donating the full amount despite the \$2,000 goal not having been reached. The additional \$1265 was donated by the PW and congregation of Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church, PW in First Presbyterian Church of Valatie and another individual donation.

A native of Chituka Village is a member of Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church. That congregation has a mission partnership with the village which prompted a large monetary donation. The PW of Hamilton Union has a tradition of receiving a freewill offering at its Christmas Potluck Luncheon. This year's offering went to the MoonCatcher Project.

Thank you to all who made these valuable donations in 2022.

We would like to see an increase in contributions to the PW in the Presbytery of Albany (PWA) Operating Fund for use by the coordinating team for ongoing projects and support in the PWA and PW in the Synod of the Northeast. It is important that each PW group in the Presbytery make a financial contribution. This year we received donations totaling \$210 from three PW groups and one individual. If you wish to support us in 2023, please send your contributions to the treasurer: Rosalie Hemingway at 3213 Church St, Valatie, NY 12184.

Fellowship of the Least Coin

In 1956 Shanti Solomon envisioned a global prayer movement and mission that would enable all women to participate and change lives for the better. We are asked to say a prayer for wholeness for all people as we set aside a coin as a symbol of that prayer. The offering is unique as it asks for only the smallest coin of each domination. These coins when put together from all around the world provide funds for many projects that will help women and children.

In 2022 eighteen grants were awarded of \$3000 each and one of \$1000 for a total of \$55,000. Malawi's grant was for livelihood improvement through livestock production and climate change adaption and Lebanon will use their funds to provide parenting classes to mothers and for psychosocial support for families with low incomes. Please encourage your women to collect their pennies and send the donations semiannually or annually to Presbyterian Women, Inc., Remittance Processing – Giving, PO Box 64652, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3652.



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Contributions to Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany

Date _____ Church _____

Treasurer or Donor _____

Phone Number and/or email address _____

Address _____

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany operating fund \$ _____

Other \$ _____ Check Number _____ Total \$ _____

Make checks payable to Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany or just PWA

Send to: Rosalie Hemingway, 3213 Church Street, Valatie, NY 12184 '



Domestic violence against both women and men is often hidden and is greater than would be expected. Last October, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Valatie Presbyterian Women collected items for women in the Columbia-Greene domestic violence safe houses. The list provided to us by the director included women's underwear and socks, pots and pans, disposable diapers, and assorted household items. The prior year we donated sheets, blankets, suitcases and tote bags for the use of the women who would be leaving the shelters.

Save the date



**Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery
Spring Gathering**

**Tuesday, April 18 – 11:30 am to 2:30 pm
at**

**Roessleville Presbyterian Church
1 N Elmhurst Avenue, Colonie, NY 12205**

Program

Michelle F. Lee, Esq. and Amanda Paladino, Esq., both Staff Attorneys at the Legal Project will speak on immigration issues that affect women.

Installation of Coordinating Team members by Diana Behan, member of the Coordinating Team of Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast

Communion Service officiated by, Andrea Ralph, Ruling Elder at Roessleville Presbyterian Church, and Moderator-Elect of Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery

For questions contact:

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Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or chasselbarth@hotmail.com

“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.” “Philippians 3:14

Elder Andrea Ralph
editor

