



The Messenger

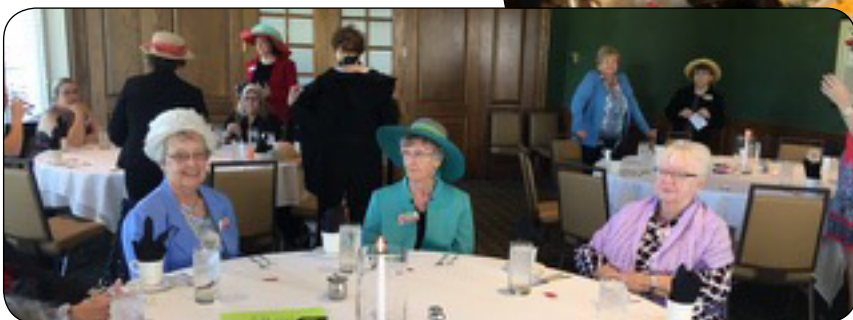
May 2017

"Show me your ways, O Lord teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me for you are my God, My Savior, and hope is in you all day long. - Psalm 25:4

PW SPRING LUNCHEON

We had a bright sunny day at the Highland Lakes Golf Club for this year's Spring Luncheon. Our day started with a delicious brunch including everything from specialty omelets to beef, chicken and seafood entrees, and scrumptious desserts. From there, we had a "Name The Hat" game, which included hats from Betsy Ross and Witch Hazel to Johnny Depp and Dr. Zhivago. Hilarious! A scarf tying demonstration was done by Lori Morrow with Gretchen Leddy as the model. Scarves were then given away as door prizes. The Hat Parade followed with hats of all sizes, shapes and colors.

Our guests of honor were Paul and Marie Sprankle. They had been honored by Presbyterian Women's Ministry at the previous Sunday service for their steadfast loyalty and service to the needy families who come to the CCPC food pantry for help. Thanks to all who attended. It was a joyous, happy event.



Presbyterian Women News

PWSV GATHERING



We were Hostesses for the quarterly Presbyterian Women's Scioto Valley Gathering on Saturday, April 22. The ladies come from many churches throughout the Presbytery. We started the day with breakfast in Ballard Hall. Then the meeting began in the Sanctuary with a prayer from Pastor Malcolm. Included in the morning were a talk about "White Privilege" and a business meeting.

After a beautiful lunch prepared by Gretchen Leddy, there were workshops to attend. Also in the afternoon there were award presentations for the Woman of Faith and Honorary Life Members. From CCPC, Lori Morrow was presented with a Woman of Faith Award. She said she was very honored and humbled. She gave thanks for a supportive loving family some of whom were in attendance and her "Sisters in Christ" family from CCPC.

We finished our day with a worship service with Rev. Karen Chakoian, Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Granville.



KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM FOR CCPC PWM

Help raise funds for our many missions every time you swipe your Kroger Plus card! Each year you must re-enroll, and it's that time again! Just go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click "sign-in", and enter your e-mail address and password. Then enter "Central College Presbyterian Women" or #81848 for the organization and click "enroll". If you have never enrolled in this program PW invites you to do so. To enroll, go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com, click "create an account" and follow the directions, using the same organization information as above. Thank you!

Presbyterian Women News

NEW COMMUNION WARE

With the fresh new look of our Sanctuary, including new paint and carpet, the Presbyterian Women felt that perhaps it was time to add new Communion Ware. The new Flagon, Chalice, and Bread Plate are silver plate with gold interiors. They certainly look beautiful on Communion Sundays and look very nice with the existing communion bread and wine servers.



Soon our newly refurbished communion table candlesticks will accompany them. So be on the lookout for them to arrive in the near future. The Presbyterian Women wanted to show our appreciation for our wonderful new Sanctuary by adding these important items to our communion table.

GIRL'S NIGHT OUT

This was our chance to "get away from it all" and just enjoy dinner with friends. We sat on the patio and enjoyed the warm weather, great food and service at the Rusty Bucket. Fellowship included laughs, sharing our life events with other ladies and just relaxing. We had a few fun door prizes and were home before dark. Fun!

CHRISTIAN BOOK CORNER by Marcia Muelenberg

"The Welcome Committee of Butternut Creek, Jane Myers Perrine

Upon his arrival, a welcome committee led by Miss Birdie and her friend Mercedes, a.k.a. 'the Widows' meets Butternut Creek Christian Church's newly minted minister. Their first order of business, to educate him on how things should be done, quickly gives way to a campaign to find him a wife. When their matchmaking efforts fizzle, the Widows turn to another new bachelor. Amputee and Afghan vet Sam simply wants to be left alone-- a desire that's as good as a red flag to the Widows! Soon they're scheming to pair him up with Willow, his beautiful physical therapist, a divorced mother of two who is afraid of commitment, Perrine's small-town tale is a big-time triumph of gentle humor, fast-paced plot, and wonderfully engaging characters.

Her Mother's Hope, Francine Rivers

Fed up with life in Switzerland, Marta travels across Europe, before starting a family in California. Her oldest daughter Hildie decides to leave her family and become a field nurse. Under the backdrop of World War II, Francine Rivers' latest epic explores human compassion and the will to survive.

War Room, Alex Kendrick and Stephen Kendrick

Tony and Elizabeth Jordan have it all - great jobs, a beautiful daughter, and their dream house. But appearances can be deceiving. Their world is actually crumbling under the strain of a failing marriage. While Tony basks in his professional success and flirts with temptation, Elizabeth resigns herself to increasing bitterness. But their lives take an unexpected turn when Elizabeth meets her newest client, Miss Clara, and is challenged to establish a "war room" and a battle plan of prayer for her family. As Elizabeth tries to fight for her family, Tony's hidden struggles come to light. Tony must decide if he will make amends with his family and prove Miss Clara's wisdom that victories don't come by accident.

The Yada Yada Prayer Group, Neta Jackson

The Yada Yada girls get caught in the lies we all tend to believe about God, each other, life and ourselves.

Circle Updates

RUTH CIRCLE

During the past spring months the ladies of Ruth Circle have had several inspirational and enjoyable meetings. In March, Sarah Tenney led us in an activity from the book, *Praying in Color* by Sybil MacBeth. April's meeting was a discussion of our favorite books and authors. In May we had a potluck and reminisced by looking at baby pictures of members.



We are a small nurturing group of Christian women who enrich and support our friendships in God's kingdom. We meet the second Wednesday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. We would love to have anyone interested join our group.

- Marty Shoemaker and Jan Tenney, Co-Circle Leaders

HOPE & JOY CIRCLE

Hope and Joy's last church meeting is May 22. We will continue our Bible study of "Who Is Jesus?". This month's study is from John.... A big thank you to Jan Miller for preparing the lesson.

While Hope and Joy's regular meetings end in May, this summer we continue to meet for fellowship. We will be going out to lunch the 4th Friday of June, July and August. All women are invited to join us. The dates and restaurants will be posted on the women's bulletin board. You are encouraged to call Marcia Meulenberg (614-891-5258) for more information.

- Carol Cole, Circle Leader

MARY CIRCLE

Mary Circle had its last meeting for this year on May 16 at 1:30 in Ballard Hall. We have been studying "Who is Jesus?", and looked at what the Gospel of John says.



As our Circle is getting older, many cannot do as much active helping as before. One of the most important ways we can serve God is by praying. If you have a matter and you would like us to pray for you, please let me know and I will pass it on to one of our members

John 15:7 "If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you." Let us serve you in this way. And we ask that you pray for us as many members have health problems. Have a blessed summer!

- Kathy Johnston, Mary Circle Leader

Circle Updates

SARAH CIRCLE

Sarah Circle members are enjoying our spring activities and looking forward to convening at members' homes for potlucks during the summer months.

In April, we sent our CCPC college students' packages with notes and snacks as encouragement going into their spring final exam week. Our mailings this school year went to 24 students throughout the United States three times during the academic school year. Members provide contents for the mailings and postage is generously sponsored by PW. Congratulatory gift bags were shared with graduating high school seniors on May 7, Senior Recognition Day. We included a note asking graduates to share their mailing addresses once they have housing assignments for the fall so they can be included in our next college student mailing.

Another project that Sarah Circle women have been enjoying is sewing sensory fabric toys that are being distributed to participants in Moms2B, a program of The Ohio State University addressing the high rate of infant mortality in Franklin County. Moms2B supports vulnerable mothers through their pregnancies and their babies' first year with all aspects of the social determinants of health. Sarah Circle members fire up several sewing machines and try to turn around a couple dozen of these simple toys in an evening.



Our May 17 meeting will include discussion of the "Come to the Waters" study. Our remaining topics are Compassion and Hope. If you would like to join this group of caring and congenial women, please contact Jan Neeffe for details on upcoming meetings.

- Nancy McEaneny, Circle Communicator

MARTHA CIRCLE

We continue the "Who is Jesus?" Bible study looking at the image of Jesus through the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We have also studied the image of Jesus by apostle Paul in Hebrews. Then, in May Carol Windsor lead the study of non-canonical texts and how different religions view Jesus.



NeNe Beachler as hostess made carrot cake with Linda Ellsworth's recipe. NeNe is on a sofa in Ballard Hall during our meeting trying to relieve her chronic back pain. The group teased her about spending all day baking for us.

Our baby shower to support the layette project of Church Women United was very successful. Oh, the clothes are so cute with appliques, etc. In addition to clothes, many items were collected including diapers, baby wipes and books.

In June Martha Circle will meet at the home of Kay Tomesek for a potluck picnic. If you would like to come and join our circle, please call for details.

- Brenda Watson, Circle Leader

Presbyterian Women News

MY HAITI VISIT by Kay Tomesek



What an eye-opening experience. I am a relatively affluent individual, and I consider myself a highly educated person. I taught school for 30 years and saw all aspects of human life here in the United States. It did not prepare me for what I would see and feel as I experienced Haiti.

Haiti is a beautiful, mountainous island shared with the Dominican Republic. Unfortunately, the economic situation there is not as beautiful. Our team went to Cap Haitien located in the northern region of Haiti far from the better-known Port-au-Prince. After arriving we piled in the back of a pick-up truck and headed to the Living Hope Mission Center and my first views of Haiti. I wish I could have taken a video of the main street we drove down on the way to the mission. There were many partial cinder block buildings as well as buildings constructed of a hodgepodge of other materials in a myriad of colors. Piles of trash were being burned because there is no sanitation system so as the trash builds up it is burned, as it is the only way to dispose of it. The bumpy street was extremely congested and filled with motorbikes and tap-taps with people hanging onto the sides swerving and passing each other (Tap taps are pick-ups with the back covered and seats in the back and they serve as taxis. If a

person wants off they just tap.) With all the sights and smells I wondered what I had gotten myself into.

We turned into the drive of the Living Hope Mission Center and I was pleasantly surprised. It was beautiful. Lush and green trees and a lovely, well-constructed building greeted us. The sign in front read: "Vous etes la Lumiere du monde" or "You are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14) We were given our rooms and spent the rest of the day recuperating from our 13 hours of travel time.

The next morning we piled back into the pick-up for a workday at the church Central College is helping to build in Trou du Nord. We picked up the pastor, Pas as his parishioners call him, and went to the work site. They are currently digging the foundation and we started helping right away by bailing water out of the trench that had been dug, removing the dirt for the columns and then removing that dirt from the trench. We had to take frequent water breaks, as the heat and the humidity were high.

We were able to interact with the neighboring children as they came to see what we were all about. These children do not go to school because there is not one available for them. It is hoped that after the church is built we may eventually help to build a school for the children of this area. We spent about 4 ½ hours getting very muddy due to recent rains, but it was an amazing feeling working on the church that Central College is helping to fund. A young boy who entertained himself by making a kite out of a scrap of plastic and straws mesmerized me. He later successfully flew it.



Presbyterian Women News

MY HAITI VISIT by Kay Tomesek (cont.)

Sunday we attended church at Fosse Capois. This was a special occasion for the church to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the choir. There were guest choirs and a guest pastor on this day. I could just imagine how members of our church would respond to a 3-hour church service. What struck me the most was how involved all members of the congregation were. Everyone was singing and reacting to the pastor's message. I could tell how close to God the people felt and how important their belief was to them. In Haiti the church is the center of the community and everything revolves around it. It is the only thing in which they can depend. Fosse Capois is one of the older churches in this area. They have a school and medical clinic associated with it and it is all thanks to Living Hope Mission. The pas is much respected and is the leader of the community.



The people I saw have such a strong belief in God and are so thankful for every little thing they have. They believe so strongly in the power of prayer and even though by our standards they have so very little they feel that what they have are blessings from God. Relationships are very important to them and their relationship with the church and the people of the church is important. They have few material belongings, limited or no medical care, but both children and adults prize the church and education. What I realized is that we as a church have the opportunity to help the community of Trou du Nord continue to build that relationship by building the church and possibly a school so they, too, can be like Fosse Capois.

On our last day we were able to visit three schools even though they were not in session because it was a national holiday, Agriculture Day. We delivered supplies that were collected by Hannah Hess from the students and teachers at Marburn Academy to Bellvue, Limonade and Fosse Capois. We met the pastors from Bellvue and Limonade and prayed with them. At Fosse Capois the children were there cleaning and planting the areas around the church. They were so excited to see us and grabbed our hands and wanted us to take their pictures and dance with them. They

just loved all the attention they were getting. They were so precious. It was a great end to an experience I will never forget.

I left Haiti a much stronger Christian with the realization of how blessed I am to live in the United States. I have the ability and the wherewithal to help these people in a small way, and I would encourage others to do the same. Compassion is the universal language.

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A SUMMER BLESSING

May you walk with God
this summer
in whatever you do
wherever you go.

Walking with God means...
Walking with honesty
and with courage.
Walking with love
and respect
and concern for the feelings of others.

May you talk with God
this summer,
on every day
and in every situation.

Talking with God means...
Praying words of praise
for the beauty of creation.
Saying prayers of thanks
for friends and good times.

Asking God's help
in all your decisions,
Expressing sorrow
when you have failed.
May you talk with God
every day. Amen

PURPOSE

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 (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



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