

WINTER GATHERING

VIA ZOOM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 9:00-11:15A.M.



ROOTED IN FAITH: CLAIMING HOPE TO END GUN VIOLENCE

Don't forget to wear something orange to the Zoom meeting.

The featured speakers will be:

- ❖ **Officer Shawn Lutz, Columbus PD**
- ❖ **Mari Armstrong-White, Mothers of Murdered Columbus Children.** The offering will be collected for this organization.

Every day, more than 110 Americans are killed with guns — and more than 200 more are shot or wounded.

Guns are the leading cause of death for children and teens in the United States. And every week there's a new mass shooting in this country.

This problem is, heartbreakingly, uniquely American.

Best Practices for Connecting to Zoom

1. Reboot (restart) your device (computer, laptop, tablet, iPad, cell phone)
2. Reboot (restart) your internet connection
3. Only have Zoom open when trying to connect. Close all other programs/browser windows which might be running.

Women wishing to attend the Zoom-based Winter Gathering should register by February 20 by submitting the following information to Martha Pool via email (preferred) mjpool53@gmail.com or by calling and leaving her a voicemail message at 740-407-1708:

Name	Name of your church (please include city)
Phone number	Email Address

A Zoom invitation and meeting agenda will be emailed no sooner than 24 hours prior to the gathering. If more than one person will be sharing your Zoom meeting, you may include their names when you register. The Zoom meeting can be accessed by video and audio using pc, laptop, iPad, or smartphone and even by the old-fashioned way (audio only), by calling on a phone (toll charges may apply). **If you need help getting Zoom set up, please do not hesitate to call Martha for step-by-step instructions.**

PW Coordinating Team 2023 - 2024

Moderator Martha Pool, '24
mjpool53@gmail.com
740-407-1708

Vice Moderator for Studies and Spiritual Development Diane Boster '25
dianebuster123@gmail.com
740-289-2866

Vice Moderator for Mission Interpretation Lynn Coons '24
lynn.coons@gmail.com
614-783-5302

Vice Moderator for Justice and Peace Terry Mancini Kennedy '26
tmancini322@gmail.com
614-530-1732

Secretary Alice Harker, '24
aharker1@yahoo.com
740-248-6083

Treasurer Bonnie Beth Mitchell '26
bmitche2@columbus.rr.com
614-205-3733

Registrar Betsy Sebastian '26
betsyseb95@gmail.com
219-208-5602 (c)

Resource Liaison Jayne Elgin '25
jayneelgin@yahoo.com
614-715-6029

Horizons/Communicator Louise Davidson '25
lcdavidson011@gmail.com
614-736-0042 (c)

Search Committee
Ruth Cooper – '24
c00pers@roadrunner.com
740-344-9608 (h)

Nancy Shuster '26
nandshu@aol.com
614-519-9755

Betty Kennedy, '25
bettykennedy58@gmail.com
740-285-4548

Directory/Newsletter Lynne McLeish.
ronly@windstream.net
740-334-3457

Circulation Volunteer Jane McKee – '24
rojam189@live.com
740-763-2002
740-641-4278 (c)



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 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,
- ✚ support the mission of the church worldwide,
- ✚ work for justice and peace, and
- ✚ build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.



Spring Gathering – April 20

Hilliard Presbyterian Church
Rooted in Faith: Claiming Hope as We Age

Keynote speaker: Artie Isaac on how to write a love letter to your loved ones that will pass down your values and wisdom.

Worship led by Carol Bogaards

The day will also include election/installation of new leaders, presentation of an Honorary Life Membership, news from the detention centers from Chaplain Steve Telfer, Mission Project ingathering and two workshops.

See Spring Newsletter in March for more details.

PSV/PW Moderator's Message - Martha Pool



Dear women of faith,

In this season of winter, it doesn't take much effort to look ahead. The seed catalog beckons and although the shawl wrapped around me feels warm and cozy, there is a longing for bright sunshine, warm breezes, and tiny sprouts inching upward with the promise of colorful blooms to adorn the landscape - all in God's good time.

The third major word in our theme, "Rooted in Faith: Claiming Hope," is "claiming." I have pondered this word which means 1) to demand, ask for, or take as one's own or one's due or 2) an assertion of truth. There are probably lots of things we could claim based on being rooted in faith – salvation, forgiveness, peace, unity, heirs with Christ, filled with God's Spirit, etc. Yet this program year we have chosen to claim hope, not unlike men in the gold rush who staked a claim not knowing whether they would find gold there or not, but they hoped they would.

Remembering back to the PW Bible study in 2020-2021 during the pandemic, which was a study on lament, I know that I thought it couldn't have been better timed. It was perfect for that season. It gave voice to pain, grief and anger. Lament addresses God directly and candidly. Walter Brueggemann would call it "counter-testimony": telling the truth about how God seems to be absent and silent, and crying out to God to cut it out and get back in character. It goes hand in hand with what he calls "core testimony": telling the truth about how God is always present, always moving in the world with justice and compassion. It is our central affirmation of faith, the equivalent of "God is great, and God is good!" Core testimony and counter-testimony witness to Israel's honest experience of God as well as Israel's hope in God, both of which are necessary and need to be held together.¹

I implore you to remember the storms and trials and struggles you've experienced, not for the pain they inflicted but how it made your faith grow deeper, sending out roots like crazy. And because of that you can claim hope, maybe even proclaim it, as you move into the future.

Shalom

*Portions of this paragraph were adapted from A is for Alabaster:
52 Reflections of the Stories of Scripture by Anna Carter Florence, p. 51.*

Martha

This is an important sign!



The continuing community and success of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley depends, in part, on the Team of Leaders who take on the task of coordinating our projects, programs, and gatherings.

The term ends in April for the Class of 2024 leaders. That class contains these positions which will need to be filled for the Class of 2027: MODERATOR VICE MODERATOR FOR MISSION
INTERPRETATION SECRETARY SEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBER MEMBER-AT-LARGE ***

*** A new Member-at-large position is pending, awaiting the review and acceptance of proposed changes to the PW/PSV By-Laws. Assuming the new leadership position is adopted, we will also have one Member-at-large position open in the Class of 2026.

The Search Committee asks everyone to consider who would be blessed to be a blessing to PW/PSV in the coming year(s). Suggestions – and Volunteers! - should contact the Search Committee or the Moderator at your earliest opportunity. Thank you! -----**Ruth Cooper, Nancy Shuster, Betty Kennedy**

Vice Moderator of Spirituality - Diane Boster

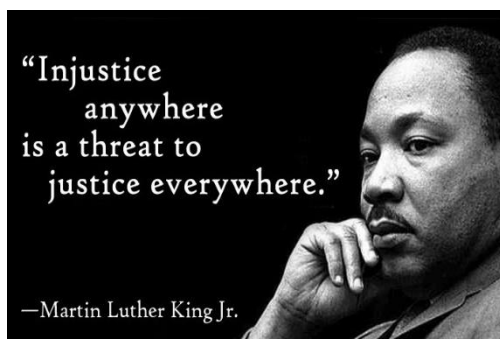
As I am writing this in mid-January, we have celebrated Christmas and New Year's Day and now have or are starting to take down the tree, lights and decorations from the holiday season. By the time you are reading this, our liturgical calendar has included Epiphany, the Lord's Baptism and moving into Lent. Growing up, Epiphany was about remembering the Magi (Kings?) and the gifts to Baby Jesus. Magi are probably more like star-watching astrologers/scholars.



Yet the word itself, Epiphany, has a meaning that is pause for reflection, particularly this time of year with thoughts about last year's struggles and hopes for this new year. The Webster definition of Epiphany acknowledges it as a "church festival in commemoration of the coming of the Magi as the first manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles or in the Eastern Church in commemoration of the baptism of Christ". But the general definition of the word in everyday use includes "an intuitive grasp of reality through something (such as an event) usually simple and striking; an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure; a revealing scene or moment."

It seems in the blink of an eye the church's calendar and events moves from Christmas celebrating Jesus's birth to Holy Passion Week (Psalm Sunday/Maudy Thursday/Good Friday services) and then celebrating Easter. So, during these winter days in anticipation of spring and Easter I hope that you join me in taking some time through a devotional, issues of Horizon's Bible Study, and family conversation to see what revelation you are discovering in your relationship with God. It will take some managing of my time, schedule and family time to do this consistently, but I think this will be my best New Year resolution yet!!

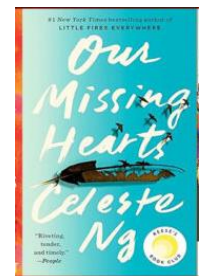
Vice-Moderator for Justice and Peace - Terry Mancini-Kennedy



February is Black History month. The website blackhistorymonth.gov has a wealth of information about the month and a calendar of events.

March is Women's History Month. A resource for that month is located at womenshistorymonth.gov.

PW will have another online Book discussion March 11 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm on the book ***Our Missing Hearts*** by Celeste Ng. Go to presbyterianwomen.org and click on work for Justice and Peace to get to the online registration for the book discussion.



If you would like to read more about our winter gathering topic a reading list of pertinent books is located at: <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/the-read-down/national-gun-violence-awareness-day/>. Since Columbine in 1999, more than 338,000 students in the U.S. have experienced gun violence at school.⁴

Vice-Moderator for Mission Interpretation - Lynn Coons

Dear friends,

The Fall Gathering seems to have been light years ago! For you, too? A little refresher from some of the comments made about it: "Fellowship, Formative, Food, Friendship!" "Rev. John's presentation was very thought-provoking – not only as a start-up ministry but how we can do what we do with renewed love awareness. Also, the staff of Nationwide Children's Hospital were wonderful." It truly was a special day!!! Thank you so much for attending!!!

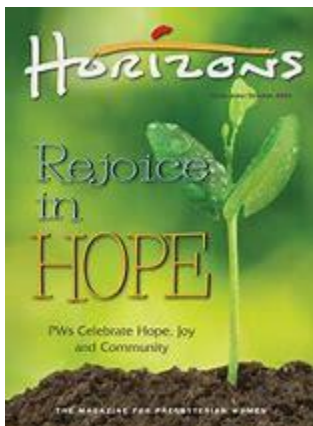
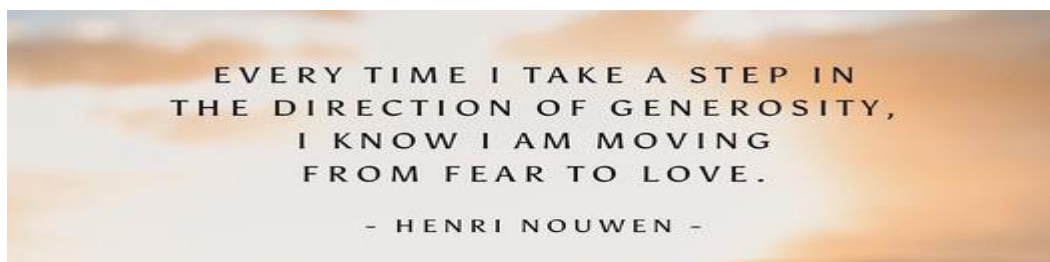


And the specialness hasn't ended for you gave \$1,148.22 toward our Mission Project which, when added to the existing monies in the account of \$1,210 (**for a total of \$2,358.22**), gave your Mission Interpretation Team more than enough to buy ever so many books, games, and crafts for our five Juvenile Detention Centers.



Thanks be to God that the loaves and fishes still abound! Thank you so very much!!!

Unfortunately, it's taken us a bit of time to pull all the dream lists together, but we hope to have everything delivered by the end of January or early February. We'll send pictures when that happens. And the lovely sidebar is there's enough money left over to seed our book bags for Perry Multi-County Juvenile Facility. But more on that in the Spring Newsletter! With on-going sincere thanks from your Mission Interpretation Team, Muriel Ballou, Lynn Coons, Ruth Cooper, and Alice Harker.



HAVE I GOT A DEAL FOR YOU!! – Louise Davidson

No, really! **Horizons Magazine** has a deal going you just can't pass up! Until March, you can buy a one-year subscription to the magazine and award-winning Bible study for \$19.95 and give a gift subscription at NO COST!! This is an opportunity you just can't pass up.

See the form on the next page to use to take advantage of this amazing opportunity. If you already subscribe, just think how happy you can make your pastor or another friend with this gift!

Horizons

Give Two GIFT subscriptions for the price of ONE!

With this special offer (and for a very limited time only), you can now give one gift subscription to **Horizons** and get one FREE! For just \$19.95, you can give two gifts for the price of one! With each one-year subscription, your gift recipients will receive five issues of the magazine (in print and digital) plus the award-winning **PW/Horizons** Bible study (mailed in March 2024). Your gift recipients will receive the 2024–2025 PW/Horizons Bible study, **Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation** by **Patricia K. Tull**. Anyone who subscribes by April 1, 2024 will receive this study as part of their subscription. So hurry!



2024–2025
Bible study author
Patricia K. Tull

☐ **YES!** Send my **Horizons** gift subscription (one year/five issues plus the Bible study, mailed in March, and free electronic access to the magazine) to the people listed below. I understand that when I buy one gift for \$19.95, I'll get the second one FREE.

Billing information

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Two easy payment options (check one)

☐ My check payable to *Horizons* is enclosed.

☐ Please charge my

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

Account number _____

Expiration date _____ Three-digit security code _____

Signature _____

Gift one: \$19.95

Name _____
Address 1 _____
Address 2 _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Gift two: FREE

Name _____
Address 1 _____
Address 2 _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For additional gifts, please attach your own sheet and mail to the address below.

This offer ends March 2024.

Mail today!

Horizons

PO Box 421
Congers, NY 10920-0421

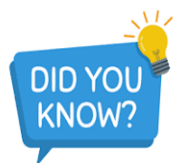
Call now!

866/802-3635

Mention I2023BOGONEWS
to receive this special offer.

Order online!

Go to
presbyterianwomen.org/BOGO



PW/PSV Information can always be found on the Presbytery of Scioto Valley website(psvonline.org/presbyterian-women/)

2024 Proposed Budget for PW/PSV

INCOME

Funds needed to balance budget	\$6,306.00
PW/PSV Pledges (7% of \$15,000)	\$1050.00
PW/SOC Pledges (3% of \$15,000)	\$450.00
Offerings	\$1500.00
Registrations	\$600.00
Donations	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$10,006.00

DISBURSEMENTS

PW/SOC	\$511.00
Gatherings	\$1,600.00
Zoom Account	\$150.00
Honorary Life Membership	\$95.00
Newsletter Printing	\$400.00
Program Printing	\$150.00
Newsletter Postage	\$300.00
Printing Yearbook/Directories (200)	\$200.00
CT Mileage	\$100.00
Churchwide Gathering Scholarships	\$6,000.00
Audit	\$200.00
Women's Concerns	\$100.00
Miscellaneous	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$10,006.00

Summary of all PW/PSV Funds:

Balance as of 12/31/23	\$7,563.25
2 Certificates of Deposit	<u>\$2,774.37</u>
Subtotal:	\$10,337.62

Designated funds:

Mission Projects:	\$2,358.22
-------------------	------------

Subtotal Minus Designated Funds:

$$\text{\$10,337.62} - \text{\$2,358.22} = \text{\$7,979.40}$$