



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Presbyterian Women of the Peaks



December 2020 Edition

The PW Coordinating Team of the Presbytery of the Peaks publishes a monthly newsletter in order to keep in touch with Presbyterian Women during this season of isolation and uncertainty due to the COVID-19 virus. We will present a topic of interest each month and ask that you share the newsletter with your ladies about what is happening in the Peaks in support of Presbyterian Women.

On behalf of the Presbytery of the Peaks PW Coordinating Team, we wish you and your family an incredibly Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

It was not possible for us to get together this year, but we have all been thinking about you and your churches. We want to thank you for your involvement with community missions, and we want you to know that we have been thinking about how best to support our friends and neighbors.

We want to spotlight your activities in the next newsletter, so we are asking that you send us what you and your church have been doing in the community, and we are going to share these activities with each other.

We want to thank each of you for your involvement with Presbyterian Women and want you to know that we are thinking about you.

Best wishes from the **PW Coordinating Team of the Peaks.**

Betty Oliver
Missions Coordinator



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

How are your women's groups staying in touch? Are your women working on a mission project or a service project? Send your comments to Diane Patty at dpatty@vt.edu, and we will include some of your ideas in the newsletters to encourage other groups.

Update from Janet Rakes and Nancy Alexander, Co-Moderators of PW at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church:

“As are all of us, Presbyterian Women at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church are trying to connect with each other and members of the congregation regularly during the pandemic. Soon after the pandemic began, the PW Coordinating Team and the three circles began meeting via Zoom and continue to do so. Circle members are also contacting each other by phone and email. In April, The Reverend Emily Rhodes Hunter led the annual “Gifts of Women” PW worship service on Zoom. In July, Dr. Dana Cozad, our interim pastor’s wife, presented a “women-nar” via Zoom titled “Learning to Walk in the Dark.” Twenty women joined the Zoom gathering. In August, PW organized and supervised a gratifying surprise drive-by baby shower for a pregnant young mother who was feeling sad because her mom could not be with her at the birth of her third child. Also, in August, PW raised funds within its three circles to pay for blinds downstairs in all seven of the new Habitat for Humanity townhouses across the street from the church. In addition, in September, PW led a team of BPC women who chose items for the congregation to donate and then created large Welcome Baskets for the new owners of the townhouses. In October, PW led a congregational initiative successfully collecting items for the Montgomery County Baby Shop, a free local service sponsored by St. Paul United Methodist Church in Christiansburg and Blacksburg Presbyterian Church. In November, PW sponsored its annual Alternative Gift Giving Fair for Advent. This year, however, it was done at an outside Advent Drive-Thru sponsored by the church a week before Advent began. The church offered Advent boxes (Advent wreath craft, etc.) and the Woodchucks (group of church men who provide wood to the needy during the cold months) gathered food for baskets to deliver to low income families. PW made cards for seven charitable organizations. As always, church members made cash donations to one or more of the chosen organizations. They then chose cards representing those organizations to send to honorees announcing the gift. The cards have been set up in the conference room through December 13 for members who wish to come by the church, sign in, wear a mask, and make donations and choose cards. PW has offered to mail cards to members who prefer to mail donations to the church and who did not wish to participate in the drive-thru or do not wish to enter the church. On November 30, PW sponsored an Advent event—a Zoom “women-nar” for all women—titled “An Exploration of Advent Spirituality” led by The Reverend Sarah Wiles, the new pastor at Blacksburg Presbyterian Church.”

SEND YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES FOR THE COOKBOOK

Several months ago, we announced that the Coordinating Team is gathering recipes for a cookbook we are assembling. We would like to include your favorite recipes. Include your name, phone number, and church in case we have questions about the recipe. Please send recipes to Theresa Underwood at: P.O. Box 733, Buchanan, VA 24066, or e-mail tundwood@aol.com. The deadline to submit recipes is December 15. We are excited about producing a cookbook, and we are looking forward to receiving your favorite recipes.

SAVE THE DATE

The Peaks PW Annual Gathering will be held on Saturday, April 24, 2021.
Additional details will be announced later.

Keep in touch! Have a blessed season.