



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Presbyterian Women of the Peaks



January 2021 Edition

“The Board of Directors of Presbyterian Women, Inc. changed the name of the Anti-Racism Committee to the Racial Equity Committee (REC) because it is important to

state what PW, Inc. stands for, as opposed to what we are against. The term racial equity embraces not only the goal of ending racism – but it also includes working towards resolving the imbalances which resulted from decades/centuries of racism. The change in committee names also aligns PW, Inc. more closely to the terminology used by the PC(USA), from racial ethnic to racial equity, as a result of decisions made at the 223rd General Assembly (2018).” *(from Racial Equity Statement, February 11, 2019)*



The Presbyterian Women of the Peaks agrees with this statement and works with each of the churches to build an inclusive, caring community of women dedicated to working with

each other and supporting each other. We are here for you and want you to know that we want to work with each of you and your churches to ensure that we spread the word that we are here for each other.

Over the coming months, we will plan to get together again so that we will be able to share ideas and words of comfort and support.

I want each of you to know that the Coordinating Team is looking forward to our virtual gathering in April, and we want to have as many churches represented as possible.

May God bless each of you and your families.

Elise Wilson

Racial Equity/Justice and Peace Representative

For additional information about racial equity efforts by PC(USA) and PW, see ***THE RACIAL EQUITY TORCH***, a Presbyterian Mission Agency resource found at: www.presbyterianmission.org/wp-content/uploads/Torch

SAVE THE DATE!

The Peaks PW Annual Gathering will be held virtually on Saturday, April 24, 2021. We are pleased to announce that Ruling Elder Elona Street-Stewart, Co-Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will be our guest speaker. Stay tuned for more announcements.



Elona Street-Stewart is a descendant of the Delaware Nanticoke Tribe and is the first Native American to serve as a Moderator of the PC(USA), as well as the first to serve as a synod executive in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A ruling elder and a longtime staff member of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, she has served in the synod since 1994. Before taking the position, she had been the synod's Associate for Racial Ethnic Ministries and Community Empowerment. We are excited that she will be our speaker for our April 24, 2021, Annual Gathering. Looking forward to seeing you!

PW NewsBytes (Winter 2020)

The former *PW Quarterly Mailing* published by Presbyterian Women has a new name, "*PW NewsBytes*," and it is fully digital for easy sharing. The inaugural Winter 2020 edition includes a Thank Offering highlight, details about a change to *Horizons* publishing schedule, an update on PW giving, information about recently published or coming-soon resources, etc. Go to: www.presbyterianwomen.org/pw-newsbytes-winter-fa3/

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.

SEND YOUR FAVORITE RECIPES FOR THE COOKBOOK

It is not too late to submit recipes for the cookbook we are assembling. Please send your favorite recipe(s) by February 1, to Theresa Underwood, P.O. Box 733, Buchanan, VA 24066, or e-mail tundwood@aol.com. Include your name, phone number, and church, in case we have questions about the recipe.

Have a blessed and prosperous New Year!