



# KEEPING IN TOUCH

## Presbyterian Women of The Peaks

October 2022 Edition



Hello, Peaks Presbyterian Women!

### **FIRST EVER HYBRID ANNUAL GATHERING IS A SUCCESS!**

**Please let us know what you liked about the Gathering.**

**Also, tell us what you would like included in future Gatherings.**

**Whether you attended the Gathering on September 24, or hope to attend another time, your input on the EVALUATION FORM at the end of this newsletter will impact future Gatherings.**

**Your response makes a difference!**

### **Highlights of the Gathering:**

- The following leaders will serve for the 2022-2023 fiscal year:

Moderator	Shelda Wills
Vice Moderator	Helen Dean
Secretary	Janet Rakes
Treasurer	Theresa Underwood
Historian	Betty Oliver
Racial Equity/Justice & Peace Representative	Elease Wilson
Missions Coordinator	Diane Patty
Moderator of Search Committee	Sandra Gisiner
Search Committee Member	Gail McCullough
Search Committee Member	Cynthia Washburn
Leadership Coordinator (LC)/Piedmont & Southside	Janice Wells
LC/Hill Cities & Roanoke Valley	Laura Crumbley
LC/Highlands & New River Valley	Ginny Poff
- The theme was *Shining in the World to Make a Difference*. Live Zoom keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency in Louisville, gave a passionate, motivational speech that included the Matthew 25 initiative, as well as other good projects in the works churchwide, and various injustices currently needing attention in our society.

continued on the reverse . . .

- The Rev. Clayton Rascoe, Executive Director of Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center, presented an in-person update of recent happenings at Massanetta, highlighting Massanetta’s housing and care of refugees in the Shenandoah area. He also invited in-person attendees to join him after the gathering to learn more about the capital campaign for improvements on the Massanetta grounds. In addition, he installed the new PW leaders.

**THE FALL PACKET OF PW FORMS IS INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING.**

**Your Moderator, Shelda Wills, has prepared the Fall Packet of PW Forms for use by congregations. Please look over the forms and observe the submittal dates. Your reports and financial support play a vital part in the strength and energy of PW throughout the Presbytery. Please distribute those forms that other women in your congregation should complete.**

## MISSION UPDATE

**WOMEN IN THE CONGREGATIONS ARE RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGE TO PARTICIPATE IN A “NEW BOOK” PROJECT OF THEIR CHOICE FOR CHILDREN IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.**



### TOGETHER IN SERVICE – MOVING MOUNTAINS

Congregations continue to report their “new book” mission projects to be shared with other PW groups. In addition to those projects previously reported, below is another project account.

**Blacksburg Presbyterian Church** – BPC PW had very recently participated in a book project for the children in the Head Start program of Montgomery County. Therefore, in response to the Peaks PW challenge, the decision was made to support the Education Committee of the Montgomery County-Radford City-Floyd County Branch of the NAACP in its collection of new African American History books and its request for funds to purchase hard-to-find books, as well as print online articles, papers, and reports. The collection is being donated to local history and cultural museums for community members to use on-site and for high school classrooms and community groups to borrow.

The NAACP Education Committee chose numerous books for purchase online at Amazon. Supporters were instructed to use a specific link and add books to their carts, proceed to checkout, pay for the books, and pick the mailing address provided to have the books mailed directly to the NAACP Education Committee. The BPC PW purchased at least 33 books and mailed a donation totaling \$250 for the project.



## Presbytery of the Peaks Presbyterian Women Annual Gathering Evaluation Form

We invite your comments about the hybrid Annual Gathering held on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at First Presbyterian Church on-site in Lynchburg and virtually by Zoom.

You may recall the Rev. Dr. Carl Utley, General Presbyter, brought greetings from the Presbytery of the Peaks, the Rev. Dr. Nancy Dawson, Parish Associate at First Presbyterian in Lynchburg, gave the devotions. The Rev. Clayton Rascoe, Executive Director at Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center, shared an update of happenings at Massanetta Springs, including a video and information about the sheltering and care of refugees in the Shenandoah Valley area. In addition, Rev. Rascoe installed new PW leaders.

The keynote speaker was the Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, who gave a rousing speech embracing Matthew 25 and encouraging involvement in the fight against injustices occurring within our communities.

The Interfaith Outreach Association in Lynchburg was the recipient of the offering, and Shawne Farmer, Executive Director, gave a presentation about its services and programs, including its new program targeting the prevention of homelessness.

Please reply to the questions below. Other comments are welcomed and may be added on the back of this evaluation. Send the completed form to Diane Patty at [dpatty@vt.edu](mailto:dpatty@vt.edu), or via mail to 107 Brady Drive, Radford, VA 24141. We appreciate your comments and suggestions as we prepare for upcoming Gatherings.

1. Was this your first time attending an Annual Gathering? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If "no," do you regularly attend PW Gatherings? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
2. If you attended the Annual Gathering, did you attend by Zoom? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
3. Was the timeframe of 10 a.m. – 12:00 noon convenient for you? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If "no," suggest a time that might be more convenient for you. \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was your favorite part of the program? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What topics would you like presented at future Gatherings? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Please give us feedback about how we might improve our programs in coming years.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. How would you rate this year's Gathering on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being great? \_\_\_\_\_

IF YOUR CONGREGATION IS INTERESTED IN HOSTING A GATHERING, PLEASE CONTACT SHELDA WILLS, MODERATOR, PRESBYTERY OF THE PEAKS PW, AT [sheldawills@gmail.com](mailto:sheldawills@gmail.com).