

PW BRIDGE



December 2017

Moderator, Jill Keifer

Editor, Kandy Keith

PW Bridge

News for Presbyterian Women of the Eastern Virginia Presbytery in the
Synod of the Mid Atlantic Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Moderator's Message

Ladies,

We had a wonderful fall gathering at Franklin PC in October and many thanks go out to the women of Franklin PC, Bethany PC, and Suffolk PC for being the hosts. It is always so rewarding to see so many new and old acquaintances at these events. The three breakout sessions were a discussion of the book entitled *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debby Irving, *Praying in Today's Diverse World*, and *Meditation, Prayer and the Gift of Rock Painting*. The keynote speaker was Lesa Clark, M. Ed., the Executive Director of the Office of Intercultural Relations at ODC. A boxed lunch was served during a lively fellowship time.

The Spring 2018 Gathering will be held at Bayside PC on Saturday, March 24th starting at 9am. Look for more information to follow on the PEVA PW Facebook page (PEVA-Presbyterian-Women), PEVA website, by email and notices in the mail to the moderators.

Please send your updated officer lists to Jill Keifer as soon as you install the officers. It is important that PEVA PW has the most updated names to keep lines of communication open. I receive information directly from Louisville that needs to be sent to the churches. The calendar that is included in this edition has many important dates. All meetings of the PEVA PW Coordinating Team are open to all churches. The meetings are held at Simonsdale PC in Portsmouth and start at 9:30am. Please remember that all donated funds are funneled through Catherine Kelley, the Treasurer. Your PW histories are due to Jill by 31 January 2018.

The Coordinating Team still needs a secretary, Search Team Chair and members, and Cluster Leaders.

I wish you a Blessed Thanksgiving and a joyful, peaceful Holiday Season. We all have so much to be thankful for and I encourage you all to keep those less fortunate in your hearts and prayers.

Hope to see you at the Spring Gathering at Bayside.
Blessings to all,
Jill Keifer, Moderator

Coordinating Team (CT)

Moderator:

Jill Keifer, 853-7465
thekeifers@aol.com

Vice Moderator:

Vivian Christie, 562-2198
hbchristie@charter.net

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Catherine Kelley, 537-3732
dckelley@aol.com

Directory Coordinator:

Lou Ventura, 373-2781
www.franklinpresbyterianchurch.org

**The PW Bridge
Coordinator:**

Kandy Keith, 681-1119
kandymk@verizon.net

Historian:

Racial Ethnic Leader:

Tina Slack

Search Team Moderator:

Search Team Members:

Spring Gathering Team,
Amanda Long, Bayside

Fall Gathering Team,
TBA

Media Coordinator:

Amanda Long
amandalong328@gmail.com

Presbyterian Women of PEVA Coordinating Team Openings:

Duties of the PW Secretary

1. Shall attend and take minutes (or arrange for a substitute) at all PWP CT meetings and gatherings, and maintain a chronological file of the minutes
2. Shall file one copy of each PWP gathering program and booklet
3. Shall include in minutes of annual business meetings the length and terms of offices filled and indicate if the new officer was elected to fill an unexpired term
4. Shall send a copy of the minutes to the PWP CT after CT meetings
5. Shall send PWP CT members an agenda, including the date, time, and place of the quarterly meeting;
 - a. shall report expected attendance to the Moderator.
6. Shall keep a current roster of PWP CT members (with the dates of the terms) and a current roster of
 - a. PWC Moderators
7. Shall send names and addresses of PWC Moderators and PWP CT members to the National Staff in the Synod, the PWS CT and CPW offices (CPW Program Assistant for Databases in Louisville) if requested
8. Shall assist with correspondence.
9. Shall be a member of the Spring Gathering Planning Team if requested, and assist with gatherings as stated in "Guidelines for Churches Hosting Gatherings"
10. Shall lead a Secretaries Workshop at the Fall Gathering, if requested.
11. Shall maintain a file of Bridges
12. Shall orient her successor and turn over all materials of the office to her within one month of installation.

Duties of the PWP Historian

1. Shall maintain and preserve historical records of PWP events, including taking photographs and keeping a file of PWP annual summaries and programs
2. Shall submit articles to the PW Bridge including deadlines for PWC historian reports
3. Shall see that PWC historians have the necessary instructions, forms, and related materials.
4. Shall prepare and conduct a Historians' Workshop at Fall Gatherings when requested.
5. Shall serve as resource for PWC historians in writing histories as requested
6. Shall collect PWC Necrology reports and submit a report for the Spring Gathering program
7. Shall collect PWC histories, create an annual summary, and prepare five copies: for the Spring Gathering booklet, for the PWS Historian, for the Historical Foundation in Decatur GA, for the records of the PWP Secretary, and for her own records.
8. Shall orient her successor and turn over all materials to her within one month of installation

Duties of the PWP Search Team Moderator

1. Shall direct the recruitment of suitable officers and present their names for election at the Spring Gathering
2. Shall know the PWP Bylaws concerning nomination requirements and the position descriptions stated in the PW Manual
3. Shall communicate with and coordinate the input from Search Committee members, calling meetings as needed
4. Shall maintain a roster of prospects developed from Committee input, lists of those attending PWP gatherings and other events (obtained from the PWP Fall and Spring Gathering Coordinators or PWP Secretary), PWC and PWP CT input, personal contact, etc.
5. May publicize vacancies in the PW Bridge

6. Shall submit a written report to the PWP CT listing the slate of nominees for election at the Spring Gathering, stating the terms of office and indicating if the nominee is serving an unexpired term.
7. Shall obtain brief bios of nominees for Gathering booklet; shall give contact info for nominees (name, mailing and email addresses, home church) to officers of CT for inclusion in Gathering booklet and Directory.
8. Shall notify each nominee of the place, time, and date of election and installation
9. Shall with the Search Team make recommendations to the PWP Moderator for the filling of vacancies occurring between annual meetings
10. Shall present a nominee to the PWP CT for the position required on the PWS Summer Gathering Planning Team, when notified by the PWP Moderator of the need
11. Shall orient her successor and turn over all materials of the office to her within one month of installation

Duties of a Search Team Member

1. Shall participate in the selection of nominees to be presented for election
2. Shall maintain a list of prospects along with the other members, listing church and qualifications.
3. Shall attend meetings called by the Search Team Moderator/may attend PWP CT meetings.
4. Shall orient her successor and turn over all materials of the office to her within one month of installation

PW Cluster Leader

1. Accountability: to Presbyterian Women in the Congregations and to the coordinating team of PW in the Presbytery.
2. Purpose: to provide support and program resources to Presbyterian Women in the congregation.
3. Responsibilities:
 - contacts the moderator of Presbyterian Women in the Congregation to build an ongoing relationship with the Presbyterian Women in the Congregation coordinating team (PWC/CT).
 - works with the PWC/CT in her assigned cluster, to hear and respond to each PWC/CT's needs and concerns, and be available to Presbyterian Women in the Congregation moderators and PWC/CT
 - assists PWC/CT with annual planning, evaluation and other tasks as needed
 - communicates concerns of women in congregations to Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery, to synod through the Presbyterian Women in the Synod leadership coordinator and to the Church-wide Coordinating Team through the appropriate synod representative to the CCT
 - communicates concerns of women in congregations to the CCT/PW synod representative •provides support for networking among Presbyterian Women in the Congregations
 - may be an active voting member of the coordinating team of Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery, as appropriate
 - is knowledgeable about and interprets issues of concern to PW and the PC(USA)
 - attends annual leadership training as well as other opportunities for leadership development
 - encourages participation in ecumenical women's groups such as Church Women United, other ecumenical groups and community and advocacy networks, as appropriate
 - is knowledgeable about and shares resources as they become available
 - helps the PWC/CT to interpret the role and relationship of PW to the session
 - passes on records of her work and resources to her successor

PWP of Eastern Virginia Calendar for 2017-2018

December 1, 2017 Bridge will be distributed.

December 10, 2017 Quarterly Mission Pledge to PWP Treasurer*

January 15, 2018 PWP CT Meeting, Simonsdale PC, Portsmouth

January 31, 2018 Presbyterian Women of the Congregation(PWC) Histories due to the PWP Moderator

February 1, 2018 Presbyterian Women of the Congregation (PWC) Annual Reports due to the PWP Moderator

March 24, 2018 Spring Gathering – Bayside PC, Virginia Beach

May 21, 2018 PWP CT Meeting, Simonsdale PC, Portsmouth

June 8-10, 2018 Synod Summer Gathering at Massanetta Springs

2018 Churchwide Gathering will be August 2–5, 2018 – Louisville, KY

*Make all checks payable to PW PEVA and send to PWP Treasurer,
Catherine Kelley, 217 Skillman Drive, Toano, Va. 23168.

News from Our Church PW's

Great Bridge Presbyterian Church, Chesapeake

We have had a lot happening at our church this summer and fall, with new staff, a growing garden to feed the hungry (with the return on Mary Hammel, charter member and Chesapeake Master Gardener, after an illness) and opening our church for a Beth Moore Simulcast which had 65 in attendance. We continue to prepare 100 AID's Meals each month and transport them to Access Aid's in Norfolk. Our circles began their study in September with the latest Horizon's Bible Study, "Cloud of Witnesses". We have even had several ladies join the circles this year, thanks to our new Small Group Coordinator, Laura Bowser, and some enhanced advertising. We are now gearing up to offer an Advent Wreath workshop on 12/2/17 which is an annual event. We will also have a Sock and Mitten Tree in the Narthex for all December with the items going to Class 1 schools in Chesapeake in January. CAST is coming to our church right after Christmas and some Circles are purchasing warm socks, scarfs and hats for our guests as well as serving meals to them in the church.

We will again have LADIES' MORNING OUT on January 20, 2018, 9:00AM-12:30PM, Great Bridge Presbyterian Church, 333 Cedar Road Chesapeake, VA. "Awesome Praise & Worship...Anointed Speakers...A Light Breakfast!" Forgiveness, as defined by Miriam Webster's dictionary, is "to give up resentment of or claim to requital" and "to grant relief from payment of a debt." It sounds very simple, but it is certainly not easy. Why? To receive and give for-giveness is the biggest blessing in our lives, yet so many of us are not living in and enjoying the fullness of this great blessing that God has given. Our speakers are Paula Bass and her sister, Carol Sargent Miller. To make reservations, call Paula Bass at 757.482.2460 no later than Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Franklin Presbyterian Church, Franklin

Pictures from the PEVA PT Fall Gathering at Franklin PC sent by The Reverend Lou Cassman Ventura of Franklin Presbyterian.



Lesa Clark, our keynote speaker



Gerry Ellis (PEVA Peacemaking) and Susie Stoughton (Suffolk PC).



Enjoying lunch.



PEVA's PW donated 71 pounds of food to Franklin's Cooperative Ministry.



Lisa Morrison and the Rev. Julie Sterling (Suffolk PC) lead the Meditation and the Gift of Rock Painting breakout session (Faye Springfield, Franklin PC, center).



Ruling Elder Amanda Long (second from left) at Praying in Today's Diverse World break-out session.



A life-size replica of the fall gathering's logo, with paper hands cut out by kids in Tiffany Matteson's (Franklin PC) special education class.

Simonsdale Presbyterian Church, Portsmouth

Although small in numbers, the Simonsdale Presbyterian Women of Portsmouth are strong in willpower. We have two groups, one of which meets in the daytime, the other at night, both about 10 - 12 members. The day session is studying "Cloud of Witnesses" by Melissa Bane Sevier while the night group studies "Keep It Short" by Karen Ehman. The activities of the combined groups have been numerous. We have invited (or attended meetings of) speakers on topics ranging from HER shelter services to sex trafficking in the region. We have prepared and served numerous casseroles or dishes for our Wednesday night Connect, taught classes and provided a nursery for Connect, provided various soups/chowders and had dinner for our congregation in the Fellowship Hall, sponsored Vacation Bible School, provided meals for families of our sick or bereaved, provided complete holiday dinners, including turkeys, for 16 needy neighborhood families at Thanksgiving and Christmas (and we gift wrap and distribute toys to their children, numbering 36 this year), provided "care packages" for the college students, provided a nursery for the children attending Sunday morning church services, and baked and served for the homeless at the Oasis shelter and Rec Center in downtown Portsmouth. We also thoroughly deep clean our church kitchen once a year. We serve as reps and attend meetings for various committees and mission study throughout the year. 2017 has been a very busy year! Contributed by Sandra Wilson

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, Suffolk

We enjoyed two summer socials, one at Olive Garden and the other at a member's home. Ladies not active in circles through the year are especially welcomed. Both our circles met in September for Bible study led by our interim pastor, Leigh Gillis, an introduction to the year's programming, and fellowship. Pastor Gillis also reported on her mission trip to Bolivia and described the Family Gardens project. At our Christmas social (again we issue a special invitation to all ladies) we will hear a Biblical story teller, sing carols, and enjoy crafts. We also choose two missions to support at this season, and this year they are the Family Gardens Bolivian project and CAPS (Coalition Against Poverty in Suffolk). Our church will host the CAPS night stay for a week in January and we will help with the meals and as hostesses. This year through the efforts of the church and PW, we will have a washer and dryer to help with the stay. We continue assisting Creekside Elementary School by purchasing school supplies and encouraging our members to volunteer in the classroom. Our Moderator Kay Smith is keeping us aware of needs as identified by St. Andrew committees, both in our congregation and in the wider community, encouraging us to help as we can. We hope to be more active in preparing meals for congregational members after illness or surgery.

Contributed by Carolyn Coffman

The PEVA PW Directory

The PEVA PW Directory has gone electronic. Copies will be emailed to members as requested.

Questions: Call or email Lou Ventura.

ARE YOU CONNECTED?

You may think you have connections, but if you are not on the PEVA Newsletter email list, you are missing lots of important info. PEVA's new Office Administrator Raymond sends out a weekly newsletter via e-mail along with prayers and concerns for the Presbytery. Contact at: Rrodrigues@pcusa-peva.org today and request to be put on her email list.

The BRIDGE Newsletter Deadline

Articles for the summer edition of The Bridge are due on May 30, 2018.

Share news of your special or different spring/summer events with all of our churches.

Pictures are welcome. We all gain by sharing ideas and projects.

Send your articles to Kandy Keith: kandymk@verizon.net

Those PW Moderators/members who receive The Bridge should make copies to share or send this newsletter electronically to your members.



