

To: Presbytery of Riverside
From: Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Riverside
Respectfully submitted by Debbie Law, Moderator
Subject: March 2019 Presbytery Report

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Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the Covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

-“A Brief Statement of Faith”

As we move into spring, Presbyterian Women celebrate the 2019 Birthday Offering, God is Faithful. Started in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Woman’s Auxilary in the Presbyterian Church in the United States, the Birthday Offering celebrates Presbyterian Women’s history and commitment to mission giving. The Birthday Offering has funded over 200 major mission projects that continue to make a difference in the lives of women and children. This year Presbyterian Women in the PCUSA have selected 4 recipients: the Disaster Response Team from the Presbytery of Charlotte, the Effingham Child Development Center-Inclusive Playground, Effingham, Illinois, The Presbyterian Homes and Services of Kentucky, Inc.-Good Shepherd Community Nursing Center, Phelps, Kentucky, and the Wings of Refuge-Restoration Home of Iowa Falls, Iowa. Presbyterian Women in the Congregations will gather for the Birthday Offering to reaffirm their commitment to the Presbyterian Women Purpose, live their faithfulness in giving, and pray for those who are most vulnerable seeking shelter, healthcare and an inclusive environment.

Presbyterian Women in the Congregations in the Presbytery of Riverside will host together *An Afternoon Tea* on Saturday, April 13, 2019, to support and financially aid our Churchwide USA Mission Experience Synod representative Gayle Timilione. Gayle is a member of Redlands First Presbyterian Church. In July, Gayle will represent PW in the Presbytery of Riverside and the Synod of Southern California and Hawaii, to the USA Mission Experience, “Standing on the Shoulders of Empowered Women”. Gayle will travel with a group of Presbyterian Women to the Finger Lakes Region of New York. The delegation will learn about the issues confronting migrant workers and Indigenous Americans, attend the Women’s Convention at the National Women’s Hall of Fame, and explore the rich history that Presbyterian Women have in the Women’s and civil rights movements. Following the Mission Experience, Gayle will serve as representative of the Synod for two years. The Afternoon Tea will be served at Beaumont First Presbyterian Church from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Women in the Congregations:

Calvary Presbyterian: PWC gathered for a Talent Show and hosted a Christmas Tea. They are supporting the Teen Challenge program.

Beaumont Presbyterian Church: PWC held a gathering with a guest speaker from Gideon’s International.

Hemet First Presbyterian Church: PWC partnered with Polly’s Pies for two fundraisers to support mission projects. They organized a Christmas Faire with homemade goods, community vendors and health information. They continue to support the Community Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, Valley Restart, Hunger Fund, PWC Diaper Project and their Student Youth Choir.

Redlands First Presbyterian Church: PWC hosted their Thank Offering Gathering last November. Their Birthday Offering Gathering is in the planning.

San Bernardino First Presbyterian Church: PWC offered a Super Bowl Bake Sale on Super Bowl Sunday to support their mission projects. They continue to support the high school Life Skilz Program, sponsored by First Presbyterian Church San Bernardino. Their Birthday Offering Gathering is June 3, 2019.

Victoria Presbyterian Church: PWC hosted their first gathering, a Valentine’s Day Tea.

PWP Coordinating Team 2017 – 2019

Debbie Law (Moderator, FPCSB); Nancy Richmond (Vice Moderator, Victoria); Carol Valentine (Secretary, FPCSB); Lou Jolliff (Treasurer, HemetFP); Grace Baldwin (Search, RedlandsFP); Judy Strahan (Mission, HemetFP); Alice Munde (Racial/Ethnic, RedlandsFP); Kelsey Law (Hunger, FPCSB); Nancy Horstmann (Justice/Peace, FPCSB); Judy Strahan (Newsletter, Hemet)