

Together in Service

August 2018

Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast have continued to support mission both financially through the Birthday and Thank Offerings, the Fellowship of the Least Coin, and many local, national, and international charities. They continue to visit shut-ins and nursing homes, collect items for food pantries and local shelters, provide school supplies, knit items for babies through adults, and support domestic abuse and rape centers. Thank you to all who have sent in reports in the past and keep doing your part to make a better life for those in need.

In May Knitting4peace provided four hundred Peace Shawls and dozens of Peace Pals for the International Christian Alliance on Prostitution, a volunteer ecumenical networking team that supports victims in countries across Asia, South America, and Africa. This Alliance provides outreach, education, economic, and medical support plus advocacy for those who have been victims of trafficking and are trying to recover.

Menstrual hygiene products for girls in low income countries have been getting more attention and many volunteers are working to provide sanitary supplies, sex and hygiene education, and access to water and toilets at rural schools. Some of the active organizations are MoonCatchers, Days for Girls, WASH (water, sanitation and Hygiene) Advocates, and BeGirl. Continuing support should make it easier for girls to attend school while menstruating and help them continue their education beyond puberty.

Two items of information in the May/June Horizons Magazine are worth repeating. The first concerns World Mission's goal (page 35) of a holistic approach of considering the emotional, social, and spiritual, as well as the physical needs of those we are trying to help through our mission/charity programs. It was suggested that Ellen Sherby be contacted at 502-569-5612 or ellen.sherby@pcusa.org for suggestions on ways to balance the needs in support of missions.

The other is an invitation to partner with Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts where hand made quilts serve the same variety of uses as the Church World Service blankets that Presbyterian Churches have been supporting for years. Quilters can get the instructions for the 64" X 84" quilts being requested at <https://lwr.org/get-involved/quilts>. \$2.25 per quilt is requested to cover shipping. You can even get a tracking number so you can see where your quilts are sent.

I hope you will all ask what God is calling your group to do and seek to find the best match between the needs of others and your strengths and talents to continue serving others.

Rosalie Hemingway, Together in Service Coordinator