

# ***Albany Presbyterian Women's Newsletter***

*And my soul shall be joyful in the Lord: it shall rejoice in his salvation*  
*Psalm 35:9*

**Spring 2022**



## ***Message from the Moderator***

**Charlotte Hasselbarth**

I am very proud of PW in the Albany Presbytery. In an environment where PW groups in the Presbytery are declining and disbanding, we are growing and gaining strength plus increasing our visibility in our Presbytery. We have been led by a Steering Committee for several years. We're back to having an official Coordinating Team. The women from our former Steering Team were Installed as a Coordinating Team at our Spring Gathering for a one-year term.

*Charlotte Hasselbarth, Moderator*

*Rosalie Hemingway, Treasurer*

*Andrea Ralph, Newsletter Editor*

*Rev. Kathi Jones, Member-at-Large*

*Ardelle Stewart, Member-at-Large*

Going forward we will have a formal Search process and seek leadership from other women in our Presbytery. We have begun updating our bylaws to fit the organizational needs of our PW in the Presbytery today.

Since the Gathering, we have been fortunate to have welcomed a new Coordinating Team member, Teresa Barendsfeld. Her position is Member-at-Large. Teresa is a member of St. Peter's Presbyterian Church in Spencertown. She will be Installed at a future Gathering.

A very important aspect of our success and growth is the support that we have received from the Albany Presbytery. We have a Commissioner (Voting Representative) at Presbytery meetings who has Voice and Vote. The Moderator of our Coordinating Team is our commissioner and is treated as a Presbytery Committee Chairperson.

Below is a PW banner that was made many years ago. It is housed at First Presbyterian Church of Valatie. If you wish to display it at one of your meetings, contact Rosalie Hemingway at 518-758-7886 or silver3213@gmail.



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

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## **PW in the Albany Presbytery Spring Gathering**

Our Spring Gathering was held on Zoom. We had twenty participants and five other Presbyteries were represented. Our program was *Presbyterian Women, Who Are We Really, Today?* We had presentations from eight groups in our Presbytery. The Slate of Coordinating Team members was presented by Bisi Shofu, the PWSNE Moderator and the new Coordinating Team was installed by Rev. Kathy Reeves, the PW Churchwide Moderator. Our freewill offering of an overwhelming \$1,326 went to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund for the Ukraine.

## **PW in Hamilton Union Enjoying the *Horizons Bible Study Into the Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament.***

PW in Hamilton Union Presbyterian Church is dedicated to using the *Horizon's Bible Studies*. We are always a year behind, as some years we have taken longer to finish all the lessons. We have an arrangement with PW in First Presbyterian Church of Valatie. They give us their used study books and the DVD for a small donation to that group. Those of us who are interested in leading a lesson take a turn or two.

We are currently finishing up *Into the Light, Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. We found both the art and the lessons to be very thought-provoking. We wrestle together over God's word, YH WH's breath of life, and its necessity for our lives.

This photo shows one of our members, Mickey Nieman is talking about the artwork in Lesson 7, *Creation Laments*.





## **Westminster Presbyterian Church partnership with the Kingdom Embassy School in Liberia**

Felicia Kollie-Gambles

WPC has partnered with the Kingdom Embassy School in Liberia since January of 2021. Liberia is amongst the 10 poorest countries in the world and does not have free public or private schools.

With the average salary of \$50 per month, most families cannot afford to send their kids to school or provide two or three meals a day.

The Kingdom Embassy School like all schools in Liberia requires tuition from parents which is a challenge. In 2021, WPC established a scholarship program for 50 students at the school.

One of the WPC scholarship students drown on her way to buy coal from a nearby village to bring back to the Bernard farm community in order to sell and used the proceeds to purchase her uniform. After hearing this sad and unfortunate news, WPC established a micro loan program for parents to borrow money for startup business that will assist them with buying uniforms and school supplies from the profits for their children.

In 2021, the African mission committee became aware that most of the students didn't have breakfast before coming to school and the schools didn't provide lunches for the students. In fact, most families can only afford one meal a day. So, students come to school very hungry and find it difficult to concentrate, especially the little kids.

WPC African Mission Committee learned about Project Peanut Butter Program at Washington University in St. Louis, MO and their work. WPC African Committee asked Kingdom Embassy school nurse Korlu Jallah to assess the extent of malnutrition in the school.

The nurse sent a report to Westminster from her findings after her extensive assessment. The WPC African Committee recognized the need for a nutrition program at the school from the nurse's report. WPC African Mission agreed to take up this initiative to start a nutrition pilot program for the younger students in June, 2022. WPC African Committee expects to have the nutritional pilot program assessed after a year to measure the impact of the program on participants.

**Felicia Kollie-Gambles** is a co-chair of Westminster Presbyterian Church PW, a current member of the Church session, and one of the three current conveners of the African Mission Committee. Felicia has played a key role in Westminster's mission programs in Liberia since she worked with the Church to start the first project in Liberia about 15 years ago.

## **Help Needed - Someone to Organize Digital and Hard Copy Photos**

We have many nice digital and hard copy photos from local, regional and churchwide PW events that need to be labeled as to who is in them and at what the event was. We need a few people to organize and create a medium for which they can be enjoyed. PW in the Albany Presbytery has a rich history that we wish to preserve and share. If you can help, contact Charlotte Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or [chasselbarth@hotmail.com](mailto:chasselbarth@hotmail.com).

## **Save These Dates**

**Thurs, June 16 to Sat. June 18:** The *Horizons* 2022 Bible Study Workshop, *Celebrating the Sabbath* will be led by its author, Carol Bechtel and will be at Stony Point Center. The flier and scholarship information are below. We are offering 2, \$150 scholarships. There are PWSNE and Churchwide PW scholarships available. That information is on [pwsne.org](http://pwsne.org).

**Wed. Sept 21, 10 am -1 pm:** Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery at the Schoharie United Presbyterian Church

**Fri, Oct 14 to Sat, Oct 15:** Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Northeast Fall Gathering

### ***Horizons* 2022 Bible Study Workshop, “Celebrating the Sabbath”**

The *Horizons* 2022 Bible Study Workshop, “Celebrating the Sabbath” will be from Thurs, June 16 at 4 pm to Sat, June 18 after lunch. It will be led by its author, Carol Bechtel at Stony Point Center. Registration deadline is June 1. There is Zoom presentation, for which there is no cost on Fri, June 17 from 10 am to noon. To register for the link, contact Donna Rahmann at [donnarahmann@comcast.net](mailto:donnarahmann@comcast.net). The deadline for Zoom link requests is June 9. See [pwsne.org](http://pwsne.org) for the registration form.

PW in the Albany Presbytery is offering 2, \$150 scholarships. PWSNE and PW Churchwide scholarships are also available. For PWSNE and Churchwide PW scholarship information, see: <https://pwsne.org/scholarships/>

**Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Albany - Scholarship Application**  
**June 16-18, 2022 Horizons Bible Study Workshop**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Why would you like to go to this workshop?

How do you see yourself sharing the information?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Two scholarships of \$150 each are available to offset the cost of attending the 2022 Horizon's Bible Study workshop led by Carol M. Bechtel on Celebrating Sabbath. The applicant will be reimbursed after attending the event and is encouraged to make a presentation at the Fall gathering of PW in the Presbytery of Albany and to share information with women in the Presbytery in the year following the event.

Send your application postmarked by June 4 to: Rosalie Hemingway, 3213 Church Street, Valatie, NY 12184 or email to: silver3213@gmail.com by June 6.



# **Early Save the Date**



## **Presbyterian Women in the Albany Presbytery**

### **In - Person Fall Gathering**

**Wed., Sept. 21 – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
at  
Schoharie United Presbyterian Church**

### **Program – TBA**

If you have any suggestions for a program or would like any other information, contact:

Rosalie Hemingway at 518-758-7886 or [silver3213@gmail.com](mailto:silver3213@gmail.com) Charlotte

Hasselbarth at 518-356-0637 or [chasselbarth@hotmail.com](mailto:chasselbarth@hotmail.com)

*Truly my soul waited upon God: from Him cometh my salvation*

*Psalm 62:1*

*Elder Andrea Ralph*  
*editor*