



Presbyterian Women Report to Yellowstone Presbytery

May 2020

Save the Dates!! Presbyterian Women Churchwide Gathering will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, **August 5-8, 2021**. The theme for the Gathering will be "Rejoice in Hope". This seems like an appropriate theme for these pandemic times. Hope many of you are thinking about attending. Pray that we will not have to cancel the event even though it is a year from now. Visit www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering for downloadable jar wrappers or labels to make saving for the Gathering easy; a two-minute Gathering trailer to watch or share; and a down-loadable flier that you can customize with contact information for your PW group. PW Churchwide gathers are always fun, educational, inspiring and uplifting. Plan to attend. Start saving now.

Yellowstone Presbytery and Presbyterian Women have had several changes in our churches both in numbers of members and numbers of pastors. We do have some tremendous new pastor pairs and pastor singles for which we are very grateful.

East Cluster: Billings

FPC Billings has had a "banner year" with 15 new members in their 5 circles. Each circle added at least one new member! Their three primary mission projects are The Birthday Offering, Fellowship of the Least Coin and the Thank Offering and they also make contributions to missions at the local, national and international levels. Sunday morning coffee fellowship is provided by PW members. They also work with other committees to provide dinners and assistance to the Presbytery and other groups that meet in their church. Their Youth went to Triennium this past summer and took PW pillowcases with them to add to the collection that was being sent to Puerto Rico for hurricane victims. They raise funds from personal donations, working funerals, and a successful book sale. They are using the *PW Horizons Magazine Bible Study*, "Love Carved in Stone". They report that they thrive and grow because of the devoted leadership of the Circle Chairs.

Bozeman

First Presbyterian Church in Bozeman has 2 circles that are going well. There are approximately 13 women in each circle. They raise funds to give to many local groups that care for homeless high school kids and women and children in serious situations. We continue having an awareness of Trafficking of women and men. They use the *PW Horizons Bible Study* too.

Hysham has a Circle that also studies the *PW Horizon's Bible study*. They do funeral dinners and provide monies for kids to attend camp.

Terry has a circle and a new Pastor Jamie Schmeling who was newly installed in December.

West Cluster: Ennis

The seven women and 3 men who support PW/Ennis bring expertise to fundraising. A small town that swells to a larger one during the tourist season, PW baked goods and pie and ice cream have a tasty reputation among hungry fishermen and their families. This year we made \$2,700.00 between the Arts Council Celebration and the Fly Fishing Festivities. The distribution to Mission is as follows:

Caring and Sharing:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (earmarked for Hurricane Dorian) and Living Waters for the World

Intermountain Children's Home, (funds and at request, Sheep Banner made and donated by member of congregation)

Church World-wide Service (earmarked for blankets)

Peace Place (Great Falls, Montana)

Ennis Community Children School

Charles and Melissa Johnson. (Presbyterian missionaries in Zambia)

Lazare' & Chantal Tshibuabua (Presbyterian missionaries in Congo - earmarked for Chantal's medical needs)

Funds sent for Christmas:

The Reverend Jean Johnson. (Rev. Jean deceased. The donation was applied to MVPC)

Madison Valley Bank Giving Tree

Interstate Giving Tree

Christmas Joy Offering PCUSA

2 local families in need.

Leaving \$713.99 for anticipated needs.

Other: Blood draw, Christmas Bazaar and crisis meals.

Anaconda

The Bible Study is *2018-2019 Horizons "Gods Promise: I Am With You"*. We meet once a month from September to May. Our projects often overlap with the Deacons of the church and it is hard to distinguish PW from Church.

The main fundraiser is the annual pasty sale which supports The Presbyterian Women's Mission Pledge, The Discovery House, (for children in jeopardy during court proceedings) The annual Christmas Tree, (dedicated to the school children in need of clothes, hats, gloves and sox's.)

Church of the Big Hole-Melrose, Glen, Wise River, Jackson

Church of the Big Hole has elected a ministry of hospitality, providing community to those in need where "word of mouth" is more relevant than the internet. The unique interdependence of those for whom place may be the deciding factor for well-being may also strengthen the sense of community. This awareness of one another's needs may take the form of inviting isolated folks to events and on occasion providing a cabin, meals and support as they find work. This echoes the purpose and mission of PW while demanding creativity.

Formal Bible Study is a cohesive force for The Church with the Big Name. The minister is in the process of consolidating prior PW Bible Studies to write a forward-looking focus for the PW of The Church of the Big Hole. The Grace of God has no boundaries.

Contributed by Suzanne Bratsky, Moderator PWP and
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