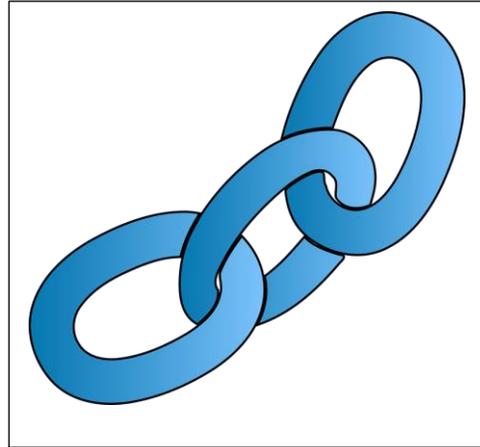


# Connecting Link

Welcome to 'spring' in the Ohio Valley, where the sunshine, rain, snow, and wind that can blow you away (all in one day) has been greeted by overflowing hospitals, and empty churches.



Our January Connecting Link had all kinds of activities and gatherings going on for you to look forward to and attend, and as I am sure you know most of those gatherings have been canceled due to Covid-19. But that does not mean that Presbyterian Women have been canceled! We are still very much alive and kicking.

We were not able to attend our Spring Gathering in April, but the speaker from The Steubenville Urban Mission, will be at our next gathering and we will continue to gather the items they requested and bring them. Those items were:

- |                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Twin size bed sheets | 7. Razors                        |
| 2. Bath towels          | 8. Tooth brushes                 |
| 3. Wash clothes         | 9. Hair combs                    |
| 4. Hygiene products     | 10. Hair brushes                 |
| 5. Tooth paste          | 11. Shampoo                      |
| 6. Bars of soap         | 12. Gift cards, Walmart & Kroger |

## Mission Trip?

There will not be a mission trip this summer; we were hoping to tour the Steubenville Urban Mission and help there in some way. Well, we still can help, we can still mail them the gift cards they need, (see above) and everyone remain safe. Their address is: Urban Mission Ministries, 301 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Steubenville, OH 43952

## Prayers:

Betty Jane Myers recovered nicely, and Karen Edwards is trying to get back on the transplant list. We need to continue to pray for Karen, Sharon Willits, and Donna Todd who had hip surgery. Also all of our churches that are struggling at this time, especially our sisters that do not have access to the internet, and may not be being fed by their church family.



We continue to look for a Connecting Link Editor so if you know of anyone that would be interested, please contact the Moderator, Judy Miller, at 330-385-0196. This is something that can be done from your own home.

The Synod of the Trinity PW Gathering that was to occur July 2020 has been canceled. However you can still be part of the gathering. **Mission Project for the Gathering is CHEW - Jeremiah's Place, we can still support these children.**

**Mail \$10 gift cards {if you have a card for a different denomination please write on the card or tape a paper to the card with the total amount} for Target, Aldi, or Walmart to: Judith Jerry, 450 Stevens Drive, Apt. 204, Pittsburg, PA 15237. Jeremiah's Place provides emergency child care services for children ages 0-6 for a few hours or days based on the needs of each individual family. More details on this and on the Synod Mission Project for 2020 can be found on the Synod of the Trinity Website, click on PW Synod of the Trinity once you get the page. [www.syntrinity.org](http://www.syntrinity.org).**



We do hope to have our annual Prayer Retreat in August, see following page for details.

As for the Fall Workshop, it is planned for September 26<sup>th</sup> at Colerain, 71789 State Route 250, Colerain, OH 43916. Registration and refreshments will begin at 9:00 am, and we will finish up by 12:00 noon. This is when we will bring our items that we have collected for The Steubenville Urban Mission.

**From your Moderator of UOVP**

We have missed being together to worship and fellowship, but the coordinating team has still made plans for the fall as Alcinda has already told you.



The Mission project of UOV Presbyterian Women this year is the Rev. Stanley Chimesya, and Malawi Prison Ministries. You may have read about his work on the flyer in your envelope last fall, that he tries to provide necessities, like soap, water buckets, used clothing, food, medications. He also offers Bible Studies and Worship services for their spiritual growth. His goal is to reach about 5,000 prisoners. If your local PW would like to support his project, send a check to our treasurer Catherine Maxwell, and on the memo line write Stanley Chimesya.

I pray we will be able to meet for the August Prayer Retreat, and our September Fall Gathering.

God's blessing to all of you for good health and peace,

Judy

# ANNUAL PRAYER RETREAT

*Come find Peace*

*in a*

# **GARDEN OF PRAYER**

*Isaiah 58:11 "You shall be like a well-watered garden,  
Like a spring whose waters never fail."*

When: Saturday, August 15, 2020      9:30 – 1:30

Where: Seeds of Hope Farm

Facilitator: Mary McElroy

Cost: \$7.00    Registration and Lunch

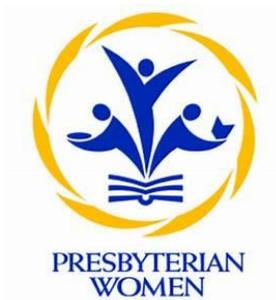
Bring: Your Bible and a Friend

For Reservations: Call or e-mail Mary by August 10

740-769-7546    [maryemc@comcast.net](mailto:maryemc@comcast.net)

Sponsored by Presbyterian Women in Upper Ohio Valley Presbytery

**ALL ARE WELCOME**



**May 12, 2020**

**Greetings Ladies,**

**I Hope this letter finds you and your families in good health and spirit. I wanted to reach out to you and extend a personal thanks to each of you for agreeing to support and participate with the Presbyterian Women on their 2020 Synod Gathering.**

**However, due to circumstances beyond our control this event will not happen, at this time. We were creating a great fellowship and gathering to interact with Presbyterian Women from across the Synod of the Trinity and our Churchwide Moderator from New Jersey.**

**But we thank you for committing and connecting with us, even though the plans have changed. We remind you to keep in touch and continue to follow us and join us, in the future, for many more exciting events. We are currently working on ways to continue to support our 2020 mission projects, encourage our women, and stay connected.**

**The Presbyterian Women are working to adapt with communication and resources to continue to bring hope and support to many around the world. And we know, God has much more work for us to do in the future.**

**God Bless,**

**Grace Marable**

**PW Synod Moderator**

# **Presbyterian Women Synod of the Trinity**

## **2020 Mission Project**

**\*\*\*\*\***

### **THE LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION**

#### **“Transitional Housing Program”**

The mission of The Lighthouse Foundation is encouraging others to find hope in Christ by meeting their immediate needs and empowering them towards self-sufficiency. The Lighthouse Foundation takes a holistic approach to helping people in poverty by identifying and meeting their physical, spiritual, mental, emotional, vocational and financial needs. Since 1985, The Lighthouse Foundation has been committed to serving the needs of individuals and families in Allegheny and Butler counties. It began as an outreach ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown, eventually becoming its own 501©(3) non-profit organization.

The Lighthouse Foundation’s Transitional Housing Program was developed and structured to help homeless or near homeless women and children receive safe and reliable housing while they take the necessary steps to stabilize and improve other aspects of their lives. During the course of the program, they are helped to set achievable goals and provide the support and resources to help them reach those goals. Included are educational programs such as Faith & Finances, Jobs for Life, and parenting classes, all to help build a strong foundation for self-determination and self-sufficiency with the goal of avoiding further occurrences of homelessness.

Receiving this funding from Presbyterian Women would be used to continue to sponsor a number of women and their children’s stays in transitional housing through the general Transitional Housing budget. It costs \$5,100 to house a family for 18 months of transitional housing. Two of the transitional housing options, Blanchard and Kaufman Drive, focus specifically on young women and families with children by assisting them in setting and accomplishing goals and outfitting them with basic necessities such as linens, housewares, clothing and toiletries. While in the program, residents are required, if possible, to pay a monthly program fee which allows them to get accustomed to paying a bill regularly and on time. When the resident graduates the program, they receive half of their total program fees paid back to them to use towards a security deposit for permanent housing. The Transitional Housing program is exploring an added benefit of transitional housing that includes a mental

health focus programming. The goal is to provide one on one care to transitional housing residents who combat mental health and/or addiction issues. It's been long proven that homelessness and mental health go hand in hand.

While The Lighthouse Foundation is an outreach ministry founded on the teachings of Jesus Christ, its services and programs are open to all people regardless of their religious beliefs.

[Checks can be sent to our UPVPW Treasurer, Catherine Maxwell, or brought to Fall Gathering.](#)

### **Also some more information on the Mission Project that was for the Synod Gathering:**

Jeremiah's Place requested a grant from Presbyterian Women in the Synod of the Trinity to continue its CHEW Program. These funds would be used to purchase healthy snack foods, formula, and gift cards. Jeremiah's Place will also produce a community resource guide as part of the Grocery Gift Card Program. This Grocery Gift Card Program will aid families when they find themselves without necessary funds to purchase food or formula for their children. When families are given more information and resources, it can empower them as parents, and they will do better for their families. Many of their families are struggling with very little support at their disposal, but with CHEW and the support of Jeremiah's Place social workers, families are hoping to sustain the health and well-being of their children. We would have collected gift cards at the Synod Gathering. These gift cards are still a vital need!

Gift cards in the amount of \$10 are requested from Target, Aldi's, and Walmart.

These cards should be forwarded to Judith Jerry, 450 Stevens Drive, Apt. 204, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. For any questions, contact Judith Jerry, Synod of the Trinity Mission Coordinator, at (412)415-3523. **Please send by September 15, 2020.**

Additional information on Jeremiah's Place can be accessed via its website [www.jeremiahsplace.org](http://www.jeremiahsplace.org).

[This Connecting Link was put together by Cindy James, if you have questions feel free to call me 330-532-5747.](#)