

THE WOMAN'S GUILD
 First Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, New Jersey

**GUILD
 NEWS**



*That we might grow
 in Christian
 Fellowship and
 Responsibility*

Vol. 45 No. 9 Our 108th Year November 2007

Moderator: Barbara VanTilburg

Editor: Ann Westra

Treasurer: Cathy VanWyngaarden

Woman's Guild Calendar of Dates to Remember

Month of November	Event	Time	Location
2 nd	World Community Day Embracing Justice under God's Tent	9:30 am.	Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Hope Street
6 th	Collation of Guild News	9:30 am	Library
12 th	Coordinating Team Meeting	9:30am	Library
13 th	General Meeting	12 noon	Dining Room
26 th	Circle One /Ruth	12 noon	Dining Room
26 th	Martha Circle	7:30 pm	Dining Room
30 th	Prepare Greens for Sanctuary	9:30am	Auditorium

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, November 13, 2007
 Noon until 2 pm

Bring a Sandwich
 Dessert and Beverage will be provided

Program: at 1:00 pm

Make Tray favors for the residents of the Veteran's Home in Paramus.

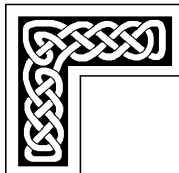
During the General Meeting

Marilyn Reilley will help us make Tray favors for the residents of the Veterans' Home in Paramus.

Ann Hovan will dedicate the Thank Offering.

Regarding the amendments to the By-Laws presented and discussed at the October 9th Guild Meeting and having met the 30 day requirement following a presentation in writing of Amendments to the By-Laws; they will be voted on at the November 13th Guild Meeting.

Hopefully we can move forward with a Search Committee to find people willing to serve as officers.



Moderator's Corner by Barbara Van Tilburg

Thinking of Thanksgiving I browsed through the hymnal and found "We Plow the Fields and Scatter". The refrain says, "All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above. Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord, for all His love."

We can think of many tangible gifts but I cherish the gift of friends. First of all, we sing, "What a friend we have in Jesus- -" and know God is always with us. This is a comforting thought as we try to come closer to Christ. Friendships also mean a lot. As we grow older we have had many friends cross our path. Some are transient, others are permanent.

I feel blessed with the friends that I have made in our church. I fondly remember many of the women who are no longer with us. I praise God for those who are with us now.

Our Circles are special as we learn about each other and help when there is need.

Woodrow Wilson has said, "Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together." What better place is there to form friendships but at First Pres!

Community Thrift Shop: Early in November the shop will be accepting donations for their Christmas Boutique. Christmas ornaments, decorations and dishes in good condition will be accepted. Remember to mark your contribution #2.



Boarder Baby Foster Parents: Before Pam Brady spoke to us at the October meeting we had no idea of the scope of programs sponsored by the Children’s Aid and Family Services.

Boarder Babies is just one way children are being helped. Babies, who are abandoned or their mothers are unable to care for them, are brought home from the hospital by a Boarder Baby parent. Most of the babies have special problems. Many are drug or alcohol addicted and go through withdrawal. They need love and constant care. The program reaches from Essex to Bergen County.

Since Pam doesn’t have a baby now, she brought a four month old boy being cared for by a friend in Wyckoff. He was born with many problems. He is beginning to respond as a result of being with a loving family and having rehabilitation by specialists provided by the agency.

She told us about her decision to become part of the program and her family’s willingness to help. We saw pictures of the babies she has nurtured and heard about their problems at birth. In some cases they finally were returned to rehabilitated mothers or were put in foster care. They were blessed to be with such a warm and loving family.

Note: The members present approved a donation to be given to the Children’s Aid to go to the home for teen-aged girls.



Circle News: *Circle One/Ruth:* will meet on Monday, November 26th. Read Chapter two of Jonah for the Continuation of the Bible Study. There will be a service project.



Martha Circle: “Saying Thanks to Our Soldiers” will be Martha’s program Monday evening, Nov. 26 at 7:30 in the Church Dining Room. We’ll be writing brief notes of appreciation to some of our soldiers hospitalized with injuries received in deployments to the Middle East. During the month of November Dana Feeney will be asking our congregation to donate blank “Thank You” cards for our Circle to personalize. Dana, whose husband Major Michael has seen active duty in Iraq, will have suggestions for us as to what words we might write, and she will send our completed cards to the appropriate hospitals. All ladies are welcome to join us in this patriotic effort. Bring a pen, more “Thank You” Cards, and be ready to write!

At Martha’s October meeting we were delighted to have others in our congregation join us to hear Kathy Koop’s comments about her recent trip to Jordan. An English language specialist, Kathy has worked for 20 years with the U.S. State Department and

has traveled to many foreign countries worldwide to aid local English teachers with their professional development. Often the people she meets and gets to know are Muslim or of other religions. For Kathy personally, each trip presents special opportunities to share God's love and to witness for Christ. Kathy provided our Church with an interesting, entertaining and informative evening!



\$\$\$\$ Our Budget: \$\$\$\$ The Coordinating Team will be preparing our tentative budget for 2008 at its meeting November 12th. **Our Estimated Income** will be based on the Annual dues, miscellaneous income, Free-will offering, and Special Donations. As a part of the Woman's Guild, representatives of the Circles on the Coordinating Team have a say in the making of the budget and the expenditure of the funds.

We are committed to the following Disbursements:

- Operating Expenses: Stationery, Printing, Postage, Staff Christmas Gifts, Programs
- Local Commitments: Church Women United, Guild Memorials to the Endowment Fund
- Mission Involvement/Action: PW pledge to the General Assembly Council for global mission and local mission, the PW in the Synod and the PW in the Presbytery, Honorary membership an Estimated Year End giving determined in December.
- "Pass through funds", which come into the treasury and go out to the appropriate cause – i.e. The Thank and Birthday Offerings, the Fellowship of the Least Coin, the Blanket Fund, NetWorkers Mother's Day Cards, Nickels for Nets and income from fund raisers for special projects.

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Thank You Ann Hovan is our new Mission Coordinator and Jane Clark is our new Representative to Church Women United – two positions previously held by Jeannette Kahlenberg.

Thank You

Thank You

Thank You

The 2006 Thank Offering raised \$983,194. The worthwhile projects that benefit from this money are as near as Buffalo or as distant as Uganda and India. The programs are creative and varied, ranging from providing health

clinics, clean water projects and beekeeping instruction to alleviating poverty and supporting domestic violence shelters.

The 2007 Thank Offering envelopes are enclosed with this Guild News. Please be generous with your gifts, which will be collected and dedicated at the Nov. 13th Guild Meeting.

Ann Hovan – Mission Coordinator

Christmas Is Coming!

The greens to decorate the sanctuary for Advent will be “fluffed” in the Auditorium on Friday, November 30th from 10:00 am. to 12 noon. HELP is needed Mark your calendar and join us for conversation, coffee and work.



Guild News Editor



It is with regret we accepted Ann’s resignation as Editor of the Guild News and the Promotion of the Blanket Fund. We appreciate the wonderful job she has done in producing issues by adding the special prayers, thoughts and pictures. Thank you Ann !!

If we are to continue communication with each other by a Newsletter, we need a **volunteer** to step forward. Most of the copy is written by others and given to the Editor by a monthly deadline. Everything can be done on the computer. Please let Barbara know before the middle of December.



CONDOLENCES and heartfelt sympathies go out to Lorraine Sproul and her family and friends on the death of her husband Jim Sproul

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Get Well Wishes:

Our prayers and good wishes go out to all members of our church family who have been ill at home, hospitalized, or are on their way to rehabilitation. As of this writing we have learned of:



Barbara Benson

Caroline Feltmose

Marge Maxfield

Jean Pelley

Rowland Pelton

Thoughts for November.....

Since the 1840s the Mayflower settlers have been referred to as the Pilgrims, echoing the verse from the Bible that Bradford had in mind:

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city" (Hebrews 11:13-16, KJV).

http://www.joyfulheart.com/thanksgiving/pilgrim_name.htm

"O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted.
Amen."

— Samuel F. Pugh

happy thanksgiving !

