

Moderator's Report, Presbyterian Women, Presbytery of St. Augustine February 6, 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I bring you Greetings from the Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of St. Augustine! As most all of us have had to do, PW has had to adapt to the many challenges, presented before us, in 2020. Thank God we got through it!

The PW supports the mission of Days for Girls, which, before COVID-19, were sewing hand-made reusable sanitary products, and sending them throughout the US, and to parts of the world, where disposable sanitary products are either not available, or are so expensive, that the average woman could not afford them. As a result, the woman would have to stay home, instead of going to work to earn money for her family, or, if she was attending school, she would have to stay home from school, during her period. Since there have been disruptions in travel, the sanitary supplies have had to wait for open air travel in order to be delivered. The Days for Girls volunteers stepped up to the challenge, and sewed face masks, by the hundreds, to be distributed to local hospitals, and to the general public. Many PW Circles contributed to sewing masks. This is but one of the many Missions in which PW is involved.

There are many vacancies in the PW Presbytery Coordinating Team (PWPCT). Most of our officers have served well beyond their terms, due to lack of replacements. We have vacancies in the following positions:

- Vice-Moderator/Moderator-Elect
- Vice-Moderator/Planner
- Treasurer
- Scholarship Coordinator
- Historian
- Regional Coordinators within the Presbytery, who are the liaison between the PW Circles, at the Church level, and the PW Coordinating Team. Missing are:

- (1) Jacksonville Central (Calvin, Korean, Lakewood, Murray Hill, Riverside, South Jacksonville, Woodlawn)
- (2) Jacksonville Southwest (First PC, Starke, Kirkwood, Middleburg, Orange Park, St. Giles)
- (3) Southeast (Geneva, First Green Cove Springs, First Palatka, Memorial, San Mateo, Trinity)
- (4) Southwest Region (Dunnellon, First Ocala, First Williston, Fort King, Marion Oaks)

I have worked hard this Summer, without being able to visit with the individual churches, as I wanted to, by contacting each church, through calling or emailing. In this way, I have been able to make many friends, as well as make corrections to our PW Directory. I did have the opportunity to visit Murray Hill, Palms, and Geneva Presbyterian Churches in 2020. I installed Officers at Palms and Murray Hill. At Geneva, I attended a workshop, titled, "Wage Gap Simulation", presented by Florence French, from Bread for the World. The participants at each table (socially distanced), were assigned their Race by drawing a card from an envelope on the table. Then, the Presenter went through the Congressional Acts that have affected the Black people, throughout history, leading to their oppression, which remains today.

Monetary donations are consistent, though less robust than last year. Still, PW of the Presbytery of St. Augustine, surpassed all of the other Presbyteries within the Synod of the South Atlantic, in donations in 2020.

We have had no candidates apply this year for our Kay Beckman Scholarship. This benevolence benefits a candidate, who is attending seminary, with a lump sum.

The PWPCT met January 25th, February 8th, May 9th, June 6th, August 22nd, November 14th, and December 12th. We are holding a Business Meeting on January 30th, 2021, where we will be voting on a revision to our BYLAWS. We have had to postpone our Annual Gathering, that normally would occur on the last Saturday in January, due to restrictions brought about by the quarantine.

The Future for Presbyterian Women, in the Presbytery of St. Augustine, is Bright! We have many, many strong and brilliant women in our Presbytery, who are carrying on the work of PW. Presbyterian Women are the hands and heart of the Church, working for Justice, Racial Equity, Peace, and, nurturing our faith through prayer and Bible Study, as well as supporting the Presbyterian Church USA. Please remember to keep PW in your prayers, and pray that we will fill the vacancies within the PWPCT, so that we may bring about God's Kingdom here on Earth.

Submitted by Daryl Mullee, Moderator,
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