



Presbyterian Women Cordially Invite You to the  
**Advent Candlelight Dinner**

Tuesday, December 6, 6:00 pm, Friendship Hall

**Speaker:**  
**The Rev. Heidi A. Peterson**



**Ticket  
Information**

Cost - \$10

Purchase on November 13, 20 and 26  
in Friendship Hall  
before and after 9:30am worship services.  
Opportunities for "servers and setters" will  
be available at this time. "Servers" will  
receive complimentary tickets.

Questions?

Contact Jenny Sernett,  
tsernett@kc.rr.com, 913.642.3328.

We would like to extend an invitation to all women of our church – mothers, daughters, sisters and friends – for the upcoming Intergenerational Advent Candlelight Dinner. We will be hosting the Rev. Heidi A. Peterson, who is currently the pastor at Central Presbyterian Church, located in Midtown Kansas City, Missouri. Heidi will be sharing her knowledge of "**Messengers of God's Grace.**"

Heidi graduated from St. Olaf College with a BA in philosophy. After being a Volunteer in Mission with Presbyterian Church in Thailand where she taught English as a foreign language, she studied at McCormick Theological Seminary, graduating in 1983. She was ordained later that year in the PC (USA) and served as an associate pastor in Illinois. In 1989 she moved to the Kansas City area where she has worked for several Presbyterian Churches as well as serving on the Heartland Presbytery staff for stewardship and mission. She was the moderator of Heartland Presbytery in 2004 and is currently serving as the moderator of the Heartland Presbytery Council. She is also the pastor of an urban congregation in a church that is 150 years old. She speaks of serving a "gritty and compassionate bunch of believers."

*We look forward to seeing each of you as we celebrate the Advent Season with fellowship, dinner, the message, music and communion. Come hear why we are called to "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained angels unawares," (Hebrews 13:2).*

For childcare reservations, please call Marjean or Pam at 913.671.2322 or 671.2352 **by noon, Tuesday, November 29.** (Childcare requests that you please feed your children prior to their arrival.)

# MESSAGE FROM YOUR MODERATOR

Fall with Presbyterian Women has been busy, inspiring, and delightful. In addition to the numerous ongoing activities, PW hosted its fourth Visiting Scholar Event, October 21 and 22. Dr. Diana Eck, our guest speaker, was not only extremely informative about the diversity of religious communities of faith in the United States, but her gracious presentation was enriching and the stories she shared were stories of hope as we work to live in community.

Many thanks go to those of you who assisted by serving as hostesses at the event, and to those who prepared the delicious home baked cookies (always a big hit). Your welcoming presence always leaves a lasting impression with our guests.

I am especially grateful to the members of the Visiting Scholar committee who contribute many hours of their time working year round on this event. Our sincere thanks and appreciation goes to Marilyn Brewster, committee chair; and to the committee members Donna Blackburn, Gus Breyspraak, Janet Burton, Nancy Easton, Carol Feiock, Bev Freberg, Jim and Linda Gibson, Mary Tickwart, Marianne Weber and Priscilla Wilson. Their dedication and commitment to this event is incredible!

If you were at the church on Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, you may have seen the beautiful children from the St. Vincent's Reading Program parading in Halloween costumes. Many thanks to the Women with Spirit, who hosted this lively Halloween Party and were able to get donations of costumes and Halloween books for everyone. What a treat it was to see the excitement and delight in the eyes of the children!

As we look to December, mark your calendars for Tuesday, Dec. 6 when Presbyterian Women will be hosting the Advent Candlelight Dinner, featuring the Rev. Heidi Peterson Senior Pastor at Central Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, Mo. This is always a meaningful way to start the season of Advent - in fellowship with one another.

Finally, as we celebrate this season of Thanksgiving, I give thanks for all of you. I am grateful for your friendships, for your contributions to the vitality of Presbyterian Women, for your tireless efforts of helping those in need and to your example of faithfully living a life of gratitude.

Blessings to each of you,

Julie Lee, Moderator

## ***MANY THANKS!!***

Thanks to all of you who continue to donate Campbell's soup labels, General Mills boxtops and Bet Choice bar codes. Since January 2005, we have sent 1,883 soup labels and \$32.70 in 10 cent boxtops. Keep those donations coming! You can drop off your Campbell's soup labels, General Mills boxtops and Bet choice bar codes in the Presbyterian Women's office, the North Entrance Collection Box in the Education Wing, or the South Entrance Receptionist Desk.

Church Women United wants to thank the members of Village Church for adopting the CLASP program from Women's Weekend. \$2,087 was raised! What a boost for the program. Thank you! Please consider attending the SWU Annual Christmas Meeting and Luncheon on December 2. Details are on page 8.



# Spotlight on...

## Operation Christmas Child

**Take an ordinary shoe box,  
fill it with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, socks and candy and  
you have an extraordinary gift for a child in need of joy and hope!**

Women With Spirit is sponsoring a packing party at Church on Saturday, November 19 from 9:00 am-Noon in Friendship Hall. Come spend time with your family and friends at Village packing and wrapping your shoe boxes. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served!

### **Instructions on Packing:**

1. Pick-up a brochure with packing instructions at church.
2. Find an empty shoe box (standard size please). Wrap it- lid separately.
3. Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or girl and the age category: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. Cut out the appropriate label from the brochure, tape it on the top of your box, and mark the correct age category.
4. Fill the box with a variety of gifts and a note or photo of yourself or family. (If you include your name and address the child may write back.)
5. Enclose a check for \$5 or more (payable to Samaritan's purse, and note in the memo line that the gift is for Operation Christmas Child) in the envelope attached to the brochure to help cover shipping costs.

### **Suggested gifts:**

Toys: small cars, balls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yo's, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, etc.

Hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, sunglasses, flashlights (with extra batteries), ball caps, socks, T-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches, small picture books, etc.

### **Do Not Include:**

Used or damaged items, War related items, chocolate or food, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items and aerosol cans.

Contact Lisa Veglahn at [lveglahn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lveglahn@sbcglobal.net) or call her at 913-432-4363 if you can attend or if you need additional information.

If you can't attend the party but would like to donate items such as tape, shoe boxes, or suggested gift items please leave them with Roxie at the switchboard.

**Please note: Drop-off of already packed and wrapped shoe boxes are during the packing hours of 9:00 am and Noon November 19.**

# From the Circles...

## ***Breath Prayer: Do not be afraid...We have news of great joy!!***

Join us for the December lesson entitled, "Christmas: A Time to be Born, and a Time to Die." The scripture lessons are from Ecclesiastes 3:2; Mark 6:2-3; Luke 1:1-2. 38

"A time to be born---" For Christians, Christmas is a time we celebrate the birth of Christ on December 25. But we find that the actual birth date of Christ is unknown and has been celebrated at various times throughout the ages. Many years ago in England, Christmas was celebrated for 12 days. But when the Puritans settled in the New World, they forbade the mention of December 25 as Christ's birthday and as a holiday. Christians mark Advent as the time to anticipate Christ's birth, but popular culture makes sure by August we know Christmas is not far away.

"A time to die---" The Gospel writers were well aware that Jesus' birth was a miracle but they also understood that the crucifixion was part of the mystery. Believers at this time also understood the purpose God achieved in Jesus.

The Christmas story is about Christ being born into the world so that he can die and save the world. Life is found even in death---for death is not the final word but the beginning of a new and glorious life.

Dee Gound, Program Coordinator

### ***Circle #1 - No Report. December Hostess: Mary Bertsch***

***Circle #2*** - We welcome Virginia Piatt and Margaret Dalke to our group. Virginia and her husband recently joined the church. Judy Schnacke-Hodes shared pictures of her summer wedding. What a happy occasion. Phyllis Likes has returned home after a stay at the Forum. Gay Bell led an interesting lesson on the seasons of the Church year. We are enjoying comparing the different versions of the scriptures as read from the members' Bibles. ***December Hostesses: Susan Rios and Tina Bower***

***Circle #4*** – We were excited to welcome four new members to our Circle this month! We enjoyed a wonderful program led by Glenda Watts. What a treat – thank you, Glenda! Laura Fitzsimmons volunteered to step in as our "Phone Caller." Hooray! ***December Hostesses: Ann Darby & Carie Wright***

***Circle #5*** - Sixteen women gathered for a wonderful October meeting. We were pleased to have Janet Holman as our visitor from the Board. We are thrilled to have two new members, Louise Line and Gloria Pearson. We will adopt a Star Family for our Christmas project this year. ***December Hostesses: Leslie Conrad & Ruth Johnson***

# From the Circles con't...

**Circle #6** – We met at the home of Dottie Karsten at Lakeview Village. We welcomed visitors, Samantha Sturgeon from the PW Board and Aileen Troester from CT and from Lakeview Village, Village Church member Ruth Parr. Among the many mentions of nature, football and band uniforms were also mentioned as a sign hat the season is changing. **November Hostess: Peg Elvin, home location: 4701 W. 66<sup>th</sup> Terr., Co-hostess: Jane Witt**

**Circle #7** – No Report. **December Hostess: Marilyn Morris, home location: 3018 W. 84<sup>th</sup> Terr., Co-hostess: Dorothy Bayless**

**Circle #8** - It was a lively meeting with information about coming events and choosing a Christmas project. Another thought provoking program on the church liturgy. **December Hostess: Carolyn McCaul, home location: 8108 Meadow Ln. Co-Hostess: Bev Mullarky**

**Circle #9** – Fall and Halloween decorations welcomed Circle 9 members, who shared a delicious luncheon. We all appreciated the program on “Liturgical Seasons and Life Cycles: A Time for Every matter Under Heaven.” Our thoughts are with Hazel Bond, whose son-in-law recently died. **December Hostesses: Caroline Davidson, Elizabeth Doyle and Jani Schepers**

**Circle #10** – No report.

**Circle #12** - Everyone was delighted to be together again. Mardie Kirkwood gave a very interesting lesson. We feel bad that Fay Harrison, our visiting C.T.member, is going to be visiting another circle next time. We will miss her. Also, we shared our memories of Adele Vendsel. **December Hostess: Elaine Kalen**

**Circle #14** - Former circle member, Rachel Commer, sent a photo of their new (first) grandchild. She and her husband have survived the hurricanes with little damage to their new home in Gulf Breeze, FL. We welcomed a new member, Laura Conley. **December Hostesses: Josephine Njoroge & Jacqueline Talman**

**Sweet Sixteen Circle** - We met at the lovely home of Peggy Adair. Kathryn Kraai gave a very interesting and spirit filled lesson. We adjourned with the Least Coin prayer. **December Meeting: Pot Luck Luncheon, Hostess: Betty Jean Smith, home location: 2900 W. 95<sup>th</sup> St.**



# Memorable Moments



## Mission Sewing



The wonderful women of Mission Sewing enjoy the display of their loving work.

## Cluster #7 of Heartland PW

Local Korean congregations were featured at the fall meeting of Cluster #7 of Heartland Presbyterian Women of October 1. Korean women hosted the gathering. They gave us a lovely preview of the much larger Korean choir which will sing at Village Church on **November 13 at 4:00pm**. The women sang wearing a colorful variety of the beautiful long traditional dresses of the Korean people. Don't miss this wonderful treat in November.

The Korean women, who hosted the gathering at Shawnee Presbyterian Church, also served and explained several delicious traditional Korean dishes for lunch. Rev. Glenda Watts assisted with the meeting which also featured guest speaker, Jose Chipenda, an international peace maker from Angola, and a presentation on Korean culture by a young woman who came to this country with her parents when she was two years old.

## St. Vincent's Reading Program

Three and four year olds have been coming to Village this Fall to participate in the St. Vincent's Reading program. It has been a very exciting year. We had such a wonderful response from people who wanted to give their time to these kids and this program, that we were able to invite an additional class.

We have an average of 30 kids per session with a potential for 40 kids, and about the same number of volunteers. We have had a lot of fun reading group stories, having a snack, doing crafts, and of course, individual reading between the volunteers and the children. The children have been able to take home 2 books each session—that means Village church has given these kids a total of at least 480 books! The pride of ownership is evident in these kids.

Many thanks to Joyce Gosnell for igniting the imagination of our reading group on October 18. Joyce became a clown before our eyes. It was delightfully entertaining, and we learned a lot too.

WWS held a Halloween party on October 25 for the St. Vincent's Reading Program. They generously donated costumes for all the kids to take home as well as a Halloween themed book. Thank you to all the Reading Program volunteers who donated books and costumes as well!

Thank you to all those kind enough to donate books to the St. Vincent's Reading Program. It would be increasingly difficult to continue without your generosity. The Tomahawk Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution donated approximately 100 books, and the Reading Program volunteers have been equally as generous. Misty Woodward Photography donated 40 teddy bears to our Reading Program, and an additional 75 to be taken to St. Vincent's. Thanks to Carolyn Davidson for directing them our way.

The dedication of the volunteers has only been matched by the enthusiasm of the kids. The incredible energy by everyone involved has made for a great Fall Session.

# Women With Spirit

Food, girlfriends, laughter...what's your prescription for friendship? At this year's Fall Kick-Off Paula Baum and Susan Concannon led us on a series of exercisers to deepen and improve our relationships. Thanks to the PW Board and the committee formed by the Women of Wisdom, Amazing Graces and Women With Spirit for this fun Inter-generational evening.

## Family Volunteer Opportunities:

### Packing Thanksgiving Bags at the Food Pantry

Stuffing of the Thanksgiving Bags will be **Wednesday, November 9 from 7-8:30pm**. Families are welcome to attend but, there will be no childcare available that night. Please RSVP to Alison Patterson at [alisonpatterson@kc.rr.com](mailto:alisonpatterson@kc.rr.com) or 816.363.3316

### Operation Christmas Child

Women With Spirit is sponsoring a packing party at Village on **Saturday, November 10 from 9am-noon** in Friendship Hall. Come spend time with your family and friends at Village packing and wrapping your shoe boxes. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served! Contact Lisa Veglahn at [lveglahn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lveglahn@sbcglobal.net) or 913.432.4363 if you can attend or if you'd like to donate items for the boxes.

### Dinner with the Girls

**Tuesday, November 15 at 7pm, Kona Grill, 444 Ward Parkway (Plaza location)**. Please RSVP by November 12 to Sherri Hoover at [shoover@kc.rr.com](mailto:shoover@kc.rr.com) or 913.239.9426.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas Ornament Exchange

Bring a wrapped ornament (\$10 or less) and join us for a morning of fun and refreshments at Jennifer Burn's house. **Monday, December 10 from 9:30-11:30am** at 6456 Verona Road, Mission Hills. Please RSVP by December 12 to Jennifer Burns at 913.432.438. Childcare is available at Village. RSVP by December 12 to Pam at [pam@villagepres.org](mailto:pam@villagepres.org) or 913.671.2352.

### Annual Dues for Women With Spirit

Dues were taken at our breakout after the Fall Kick-Off program. Our dues cover the costs for speakers, refreshments and volunteer projects for the year. If you haven't paid your dues (suggested amount is \$20 for the year) and would like to send a check, please make your check payable to Presbyterian Women and in the memo line write WWS. You can mail it to Kim Stratton at 10319 Delmar lane, SM, KS 66207.

*Don't forget to buy your tickets for Advent Dinner!*

*Tickets will be sold between church services on Sundays in November.*

# Amazing Graces

Amazing Graces is a group of women in the age range of 45-65 (give or take a few years!). Oftentimes the "life" challenges we are meeting are career, upcoming retirement or retirement, empty nest, caring for parents, menopause! We meet informally through dinner

groups, book group, Bible study and Yoga. Join us for these wonderful events -

- February – Saturday morning "Coffee House" with Kelly Sisney, Christian Comedienne.
- April – A possible travelogue on Italy, OR program on antiques and/or gardening.

Watch in *The Messenger* and *Good News* for finalized dates and plans!

### Book Club

Please join us on **December 6** for a discussion of *Lucky* by Alice Sebold. Bring your recommendations for the New Year too! If you have questions, please contact Sonia Whiteaker, 913.661.0980, [swhitea@kc.rr.com](mailto:swhitea@kc.rr.com).

### Dinner Groups

Meet every month or every other month, time and place determined by each group. If you are already in a dinner group, the groups will remain the same as last year. If you wish to change groups, or are not yet in a dinner group and wish to join one, please contact - Alleyne Johnson 913.541.9364, [ajohnson1218@kc.rr.com](mailto:ajohnson1218@kc.rr.com).

### Bible Study

Meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday from 4:30-6pm in Room 133. Contact person – Lisa Schellhorn 913.236.6837, [schell5@aol.com](mailto:schell5@aol.com).

### Co-ed Yoga Class – open to everyone!

Tuesdays from 7:15-8:15 in Rooms 232 & 233. The cost is \$60 for 6 sessions. For more information, please call Janice Newberry at 816.444.3095.

Feel free to contact any of the AG Steering Committee with questions and/or comments:

Gadine Acton, 913.648.8996

Alleyne Johnson, 913.541.9634

Barb Brown, 913.492.9636

Carolyn Smith, 913.268.5344

Caryl Herman, 913.888.9879

Sonia Whiteaker, 913.661.0980



WOW Committees have been very active finding interesting and fun events for the enjoyment of this group. They are a good way to get acquainted with other women of similar interest and see friends as well. If you are interested in any of these

activities, please contact Dortha Hargadine at 913.642.2019.

### Day Trips

Please join us for a lovely afternoon at the Fairmont Hotel for Tea on Thursday, December 8 at 2pm. They serve a variety of delicious finger foods and tea. We will meet at the south parking lot of the church at 1:30pm to carpool for those who do not wish to drive. Call Vickie Britain at 913.631.0257 or Lenore Dawson at 913.652.9548 for more information and required reservations by December 1.

### Luncheon Group

We will meet for our holiday luncheon at the American Restaurant, 25<sup>th</sup> & Grand, KC, MO on Friday, December 2 at 11:30am. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE! WE will carpool from the church at 11am. Reservations are required by November 28. For more information and reservations contact Peggy Johnston at 913.268.0062 or Gayle Ward at 913.642.1062.

### Game Group

For a lively time of games and conversation, please come to play with us on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month from 1-3pm. There are a variety of games to choose from that suit your taste, and it's free. If you would like more information, call Ella McCue at 913.722.2261.

### Movie Group

Our next movie will be shown on November 15 at 1pm in Room 304 at the church. Movies are scheduled the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. We hope you will join us in our nice theater and enjoy the movie. For question, please call Ginny Pugh at 913.262.1542.



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## **MISSION SEWING**



### **SEW THERE!**

We meet the first, third, fourth, and fifth Tuesday of each month from 8:30am to 2:30pm in C-160. Hope to see you on any or all of the following dates: **November 15, 22 and 29, December 5 and 19.**

*If you would like to join the camaraderie while using your sewing skills, this is the best way to spend a Tuesday making a difference for others!*

Bring a brown bag lunch.

For more information, please call Helen Taliaferro, 913-381-6009.

*Be sure to see our "Memorable Moments" on page 6!*

## **PAGE TURNERS**

The Page Turners book group meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 9:30am in Rooms 126 & 127.

November 22 – "My Sister's Keeper" by Jodi Picault.

*2006 book selections were chosen at our October meeting.*

*They will be listed in December's Messenger, or please visit the Presbyterian Women website for details.*

All are welcome to come to our group. Call Margot Bates 913.652.0349 for more information.

## **ST. VINCENT'S FAMILY CENTER**

The Fall St. Vincent's Reading Program **has begun** and continues every Tuesday through November 15 from 10-11am.

*Be sure to see our "Memorable Moments" on page 6!*

The 4-year-olds will arrive by bus at the church about 9:45 a.m. If weather permits the children spend time on the playground before going to Room E307 for Circle Time. After a story is read, the children will have a snack, spend time on a simple project, and select a book for individual reading time one-on-one with a volunteer. Each child leaves at 11a.m with a book to keep.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Spring session which is scheduled for March and April, or if you would like to donate books, please contact Michelle Schmidt at 913-652-9010 or email at [michelleschmidt@kc.rr.com](mailto:michelleschmidt@kc.rr.com).

*St. Vincent's December Donation Items –  
Soaps: dish soap, laundry detergent, bar and adult deodorant.*

## **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

### **Christmas Luncheon and Annual Meeting**

Friday, December 2

Registration - 10:30am, Program - 10:50am, Lunch following  
Asbury United Methodist Church, 5400 W. 75<sup>th</sup> St., Prairie Village  
Tickets are \$7

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## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN BOARD UPDATES FOR YOUR DIRECTORY**

New Women Of Wisdom Representative:

Ann Shaw  
8904 W. 72<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Merriam, KS 66204  
(913) 677-2144  
ashaw89@hotmail.com

## **CIRCLE UPDATES FOR YOUR DIRECTORY**

**Circle #2** – Change of name: Judy Schnacke-Hodes

Add new members:

Virginia Piatt  
11423 Grant  
Overland Park, KS 66210  
(913) 451-2681

Change of address:

Georgia Doolittle  
8101 Mission Rd.  
Prairie Village, KS 66208

**Circle #4** – Change Michelle Schmidt's email address to – michelleschmidt@kc.rr.com

Change Meg Godderz' address to – 7221 Widmer (not 732)

Add new members:

Julie Baker  
8400 Meadow Lane  
Leawood, KS 66206  
(913) 381-8979

Kaki Kahl  
10311 Manor  
Leawood, Ks 66205  
(913) 385-9916  
kaki@terratechnologies.com

Camille Vandervoort  
2519 W. 64<sup>th</sup> St.  
SM, KS 66208  
(913) 831-2788  
camille\_vanervoort@yahoo.com

Carie Wright  
10315 High Dr.  
Leawood, KS 66206  
(913) 432-3453  
tjcariewright@sbcglobal.net

**Circle #5** – Add new members:

Louise Line  
14001 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> St., #214  
Lenexa, KS 66215  
(913) 599-5444

Gloria Pearson  
12001 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> St., #228  
Lenexa, KS 66206  
(913) 307-0221

**Circle #9** – Add Helen Dunn's phone number – (913) 642-3913

Delete: Martha Coate, Molly Freeman & Phyllis Matchette

Change of Address:

Dorothy Barhydt  
3501 W. 95<sup>th</sup> St. #218  
Overland Park, KS 66206  
(913) 385-3019

Beth Markley  
11216 Summit St. #1502  
SM, KS 66215  
(913) 663-2190

**Circle #12** – Delete: Adele Vendsel (deceased)

Change of Address:

Mardie Kirkwood  
9539 Ash, #110  
Overland Park, KS 66207  
(913) 901-0291

**Circle #14** – Add new member:

Laura Conley  
707 W. 47<sup>th</sup> ST.  
KC, MO 64112  
(816) 304-2016