

## ***NEW RIVER NEWS AND REVIEWS***

*"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."  
1 Thessalonians 5:11*

*February & March, 2009*

Hello dear Ladies!

At the beginning of a new year, many of us think about the tradition of making New Year Resolutions. Now, you will note that I said "think about", which is something I suspect most of us do ... but I wonder how many of us actually make them, or how many of us keep the ones we make? I recently read an article in January's *Tabletalk* magazine titled "The Resolutions of Jonathan Edwards." As a young man, only in his 19<sup>th</sup> year, he wrote his 70 resolutions, an amazing feat in itself. But what I found truly inspiring was his preface:

*"Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humbly entreat him by his grace to enable me to keep these resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to his will for Christ's sake."*

These words pierced my deceitful heart, and made me realize that I have all too often "resolved" to do things on my own, my own way, without first humbly entreating God for His enabling grace to do things in His will and for my Savior's sake. My prayer for myself and for us all is that we will remember these words and pray them before we "**resolve**" to do anything! With love and prayers and blessings, Barbara xxx

### **PRESWIC HIGHLIGHTS**

From the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, held at Providence Reformed Church in Barboursville. Ladies were present from Covenant, Faith Presbyterian, Kanawha Salines, Providence Reformed, Redeemer, and Winifrede.

**Installation of Officers:** Sue Parker from Providence Reformed was installed by Pastor Bob Wildeman as our new Vice President. Our dear Jeannie Hennen was re-installed in absentia as our Treasurer. Praise the Lord! Thank you both, and thanks to our Secretary Mary Graham from Covenant, Nitro, for being so very willing to serve.

**2009 Annual Love Gift:** This year's recipient is the PCA Administrative Committee, or the AC as it is more commonly known. Bulletin inserts and a DVD are available, at NO charge, from the PCA CE&P Bookstore. Email: [www.pcacep.org/lovegift](http://www.pcacep.org/lovegift) phone: 1-800-283-1357.

**2009 WIC Leadership Training Conference:** March 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> at Covenant College Chattanooga, TN. Sue Parker and I will be attending and driving down together on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. There is still time to join us, and room in the car for two more! Sue and I will be taking 4 different seminars that we will share with you when we return. Just a personal note: We are staying at The Chattanooga Choo

Choo Hotel ... I love that Glen Miller swing song! I shall be humming it all the time I'm there!

**New Nominations:** May 31<sup>st</sup> is the last day for us to receive nominations for the offices of President and Secretary. Their terms begin on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, and end December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Please prayerfully consider before asking a potential nominee to run, and please be in prayer with her as she prayerfully considers accepting.

**Stitches of Love Ministry:** Dianna's report is printed later on in this newsletter.

**Roma Marshall, Missionary:** Roma is back in Jinga, Uganda, and her update is printed later on in this newsletter.

**2009 Fall Retreat:** The ladies at Covenant in Nitro will be hosting this year's Retreat, and they have already lined up a wonderful Speaker for us. Details will be coming to you in a month or two. Please be in prayer for these ladies as they work hard on just the right program for us! **Mark your calendars for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September!** Our next meeting will be held at Kanawha Salines on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Do please come and join us ... it's not all business!

## **PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCHES**

**For February:** Providence Reformed PC in Barboursville.

**For March:** Riverview PC in Charleston.

**For April:** Ministry leaders, Sunday School teachers, Nursery helpers, and all the men and women who serve in any way in our churches.

**For May:** Pliney PC, and the Presbytery and PresWIC meetings. The prayer schedule has the names of our Pastors, Ruling Elders and Deacons and their wives, and more details for prayer for our Presbytery too.

If you need an extra copy or copies of the schedule, please call Barbara at 304 586 3831, or email at: bhudsonmk@aol.com

## **THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY**

Today we seem to be surrounded by many unsettling and worrisome things that are happening in our churches, our homes, and our country. Sometimes it's hard not to be overwhelmed and frustrated, and even fearful. We tend to forget at these moments that our God is an Awesome God, and that nothing ever happens outside of His will! Here is something to remind us of His promises from Charlotte Wilson, of Faith Reformed PC in Fairmont. Charlotte reminds us that, try as we may, it's not always possible to keep a positive attitude because the *Worry Worm* creeps into our minds. She goes on to say that "worry is a form of fear", and that "fear is False Evidence Appearing Real." She reminds us that our children are the hardest ones to console when they are worried, and she wrote this little poem to help them, and ourselves too!

### **Little Worry Worm**

*Little Worry Worm feeds on fear.  
Creeps with lies into my ear.  
Crawls slowly up across my nose.  
The smell of failure from it arose.*

*Little Worry Worm tells me I can't  
As seeds of doubt in me it plants.  
For if I listen and believe  
Then success I can't receive.*

*Little Worry Worm I won't lies feed.  
I'll give it a Faith Growth seed.  
Wrap it up in God's Promise Leaf.  
For now my worries He will relieve.*

*Little Worry Worm in God's Hand  
For it too, His Plan is Grand.  
When He returns it from the sky  
It's now a Blessing Butterfly!*

Thank you Charlotte for reminding us, in your own sweet way, that our God is a merciful God and His promises are always kept. He will take care of our worries and our woes and, as the Apostle Paul tells us in Philippians 4:12,13

*"I know how to be brought low,  
and I know how to abound. In  
any and every circumstance, I  
have learned the secret of facing  
plenty and hunger, abundance and  
need. I can do all things through  
Him who strengthens me."*

## **◆ BOOK REVIEWS ◆**

This review is from Sue Parker, who recently read "*The True Woman: The Beauty and Strength of a Godly Woman*" by Susan Hunt, (Crossway Books, 1997), and part of the WIC "Biblical Foundations For Womanhood" series. Sue tells us: "True woman or New woman? Is your purpose to glorify God ... or to seek your own happiness? What tells you how to live - God's Word ... or your own experiences? After comparing the "true" versus "new", Hunt continues to describe how Christian women should reflect our redemption by working to cultivate community and be channels of compassion both in our homes and (together with our

sisters in Christ) in our churches.

Then she goes on to discuss the virtues of a true woman: piety, purity, domesticity and submissiveness - red-flag words, as we close out the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century! Do these principal virtues of the nineteenth century concept of the true woman belong to a particular time and place ... or are they biblical virtues that transcend time and place?

**The True Woman** is also background reading for the Women In the Church's curriculum for our young women in middle school and high school, "Becoming a True Woman." (Information available on the CE&P web site.) Since September, I have been team-teaching this study to our 6th-8th grade girls at Providence Reformed, and can heartily recommend studying "Becoming A True Woman" to encourage impressionable young ladies (who are bombarded by what the world thinks they should be) to "grow in wisdom ... and in favor with God."

## **"WOMEN'S CHOICE" Pregnancy Outreach**

Ladies, please prayerfully consider becoming a telephone volunteer. Contact Kris Rollins if the LORD leads you to consider this very needy ministry. Call Kris at 304 757 7319

## **"WEST VIRGINIAN'S FOR LIFE, INC"**

Will have their Pro-Life Rally to "STOP Taxpayer Funded Abortions" on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon at the State Capitol Rotunda. The Rally will include music and exciting speakers, including National Right to Life President Wanda Franz and National Right to Life Political Director Karen Cross. Schedule of Events:  
10-11am - Meet with legislatures

11:30am - Teens for Life Rally  
12 Noon - Rally to Stop Taxpayer  
Funded Abortions  
Prayer walk following the Rally, and  
remember to wear gold! There will  
be free gold "Rally for Life" t-  
shirts for the first 300 attendees.  
For more information, call  
304 595 9845 or visit the web site  
at: [www.wvforlife.org](http://www.wvforlife.org)

### **"STITCHES OF LOVE"**

Here is a condensed version of the  
report from Dianna Perdue of  
Winifrede PC, about the last two  
visits to the Greenbrier Birthing  
Federal Correctional Center at  
Hillsboro, WV.

"A mission day was taken on  
Tuesday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 with  
myself, Barbara Lewis, Maxine  
Brown, Delores Knapp, Faye  
Rumbaugh, and RE Sam Perdue.  
The group took lunch to share with  
the inmates and the staff. A Bible  
study lesson was presented to the  
mothers by Mac Brown while lunch  
was set-up. Lunch was buffet style  
with WV hot dogs with homemade  
chili and slaw, plus lots of the  
trimmings, and homemade candy  
and cookies for dessert. Chocolate  
was a big hit! We took all the  
fixings and all the plates, cups and  
cutlery too. There was star soup  
and fruit for the little ones, and  
our church youth group made up 14  
special Halloween baby party mix  
treat containers. After enjoying a  
friendly lunch with the inmates,  
babies and staff, we moved on to  
the craft of the day. The mother's  
were excited about doing a tie  
blanket of their choice for their  
baby. All sorts of donated baby  
items were offered as prizes and  
given out to the Mothers. Not only  
were the donated items from the  
ladies in our church, but also from  
ladies who attended the Fall  
Retreat, along with the guest  
speaker, Grace Honeywell. We also  
received a money donation from

the ladies at Riverview PC for  
buying needed baby medicines.  
Our time spent with the babies and  
their mothers was a true blessing.  
We took lots of pictures, especially  
of the adorable, sweet babies. The  
mothers were very friendly, all  
were polite, and very thankful for  
what we shared with them. Our  
group shared the Love of the Lord  
throughout the afternoon and each  
of us came away with an abundance  
of blessings. During the day we  
learned that one of the mothers  
was at WVU Hospital with her baby  
Emanuel, who was undergoing open  
heart surgery to correct a heart  
problem he was born with. Before  
we left that day, a call was  
received that the surgery was  
successful!

*Please, help us pray for these  
babies and their mothers. We are  
so blessed ... our freedoms and  
faith allow us to share the gospel,  
but only God makes the way for us  
to do so!"*

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Another trip to the Birthing Center  
was taken by Dianna and her  
husband Sam Perdue on Monday  
December 8<sup>th</sup>. The weather was  
snowy and cold! Dianna tells us:  
"The Winifrede Stitches of Love  
of WV departed for a special  
Christmas delivery from our church  
to the mothers. I taught a Bible  
lesson on the history and Christian  
meaning of the candy cane and the  
true meaning of Christmas. Sam  
and I then presented a candy cane  
to each of the inmates and the  
staff. There were 17 inmates, and  
16 babies, with another baby due at  
the end of December. Three new  
mothers are expected to arrive by  
the end of the week. 6 of the  
mothers we visited in October are  
now gone, but 8 new mothers and  
their babies were present, plus 2  
more babies had been born. One  
baby was only three days old and  
weighed less than 4 pounds. And  
little Emanuel, the baby who had  
open heart surgery, was there. He

did great and made a speedy  
recovery. He was so precious, and  
smiles all the time. He's about a  
year old now. He pulled down his  
shirt from the neck and proudly  
showed me his chest scar and said,  
"me good!"

The Lord is so good!  
We took the women blankets for  
their beds and three containers of  
homemade candy and a large tray  
of homemade cookies, mostly  
chocolate. Once again the  
chocolate was a big hit! We also  
took some food storage container  
sets to allow each mother to take  
some goodies back to their living  
area. As always the time we spent  
with the babies and their mothers  
was a true blessing from God. The  
babies are so well behaved, they  
remembered us and the two that  
can walk now came running to us  
with their arms lifted up and  
smiles glowing. The mothers were  
very humble, many now have told  
us they have learned their lesson,  
they cannot wait to be released to  
go back and make a life with their  
family. Many of these women have  
accepted Christ as their Lord and  
Savior. We make our stitches with  
love and we pray for the women  
that will receive them. Something  
we tell the inmates each time we  
visit them. This time, when one of  
the mothers picked out her  
blanket, she told me she especially  
wanted a handmade one because  
they are so beautiful, but mostly  
because she wanted those prayers  
that she knew were issued while  
the blanket was being made. She  
wanted and needed the prayers to  
be on her behalf.

God has blessed our people, our  
church, and He is allowing us to  
share His gospel to these inmate  
mothers and their tiny babies.

*Please, help us pray for them, and  
let our light shine for the glory of  
God.*

*In God's Grace, Dianna Perdue"*

## **FAVORITE CHURCH RECIPES**

First of all, dear Ladies, we need to take care of an "OOPS" in the recipe for "Mexican Cornbread" printed in October's newsletter... Olive tells us that the Cornmeal should have read: Self Rising cornmeal. We are so sorry, and pray that this didn't cause a minor disaster to any special Mexican dinners you might have made!

Please send in your own favorite church recipes to Barbara @ bhudsonmk@aol.com or call her at 304 586 3831 for her snail mail address! *And remember* Kathy Calhoun's wonderful suggestion ... that each time we use one of these recipes, we pray for the woman who gave it to us!

Our next favorite recipe comes from Anna George of Covenant PC.

### **Easy Baked Chicken Breasts**

8 Boneless Chicken Breasts  
8 Slices Swiss Cheese  
2 cans Cream of Mushroom Soup  
½ cup Dry White Wine - or water  
2 cups Pepperidge Farm Herb Stuffing Mix - crushed  
4 TBSP Butter or Margarine, melted (Anna has used 8 TBSP)

1. Arrange chicken in lightly greased 13x9 baking dish. Top with cheese slices.
2. Combine soup with wine, or water, stir well and spoon over chicken. Sprinkle stuffing mix over soup, drizzle melted butter over stuffing.
3. Bake @ 350 for 45-60 minutes.

Anna says that one person she served this to said it tastes like southern fried chicken.

A great dish to put together ahead of time, stick in the fridge, and pull out when ready to bake.

## **MISSIONARIES**

### **Roma Marshall in Jinja, Uganda**

Roma writes "Greetings from Jinja, Uganda, in East Africa. I pray this finds all of you well in this new year of 2009.

My days are filled with what seems a whirlwind of activities. The Children's outpatient clinic remains very busy with various illnesses of varying degrees. There are new challenges each day. Recently, two infants died of improperly tied umbilical cords at birth; these are not the first instances. If you are aware of any medical supply distributors, hospitals, or maternity clinics willing to donate and send newborn cord clamps, please help us. I want to thank all of you that donated band aids, alcohol pads, non-stick wound pads, syringes, needles, and so many other supplies for the clinic. They will be put to great use. All the employees are so grateful for these supplies as well as the mothers of our patients.

I have also taught two classes of village women the HIV-AIDS information course, one in the village of Bunzibiridde where 32 women and young girls were in attendance, the other in the village of Ketokonyonye where 26 women were in attendance. Attendees are given a copy of the lesson with the design for them to teach others in their communities. There are more classes scheduled in an effort to make the communities aware of the myths v. facts about the disease and looking to God's Word for our examples of proper behavior before marriage.

The Good Shepherd's Fold Orphanage, located about 40 minutes out of Jinja, has hired a Ugandan nurse for their medical clinic and have invited me to help there when possible. I did so on February 13<sup>th</sup> in an effort to share the knowledge God has given me.

Plans are to continue this on a weekly basis.

As you can see, there are many things to pray about. *My special prayer needs are:*

- Cord clamps for the newborns.
- Educational needs of the communities.
- Immigration process for a visa.
- A buyer for my home.
- Spiritual and physical fitness.
- A dependable vehicle.
- Travel mercies daily.

It is a privilege and a pleasure to serve the Lord here in Uganda.

Thank you for your continued support of prayers and finances. Yours in Him, Roma Marshall "

Ladies, I know that Roma would love to receive mail from us! Her address is:

Roma M. Marshall  
P.O. Box 354  
Jinja, Uganda  
East Africa

### **Wendy Hammond, "Mustard Seeds & Mountains"**

"Hello from McDowell County! I've been busy, but it's so exciting working with kids! A lot of my time is spent these days helping out at the elementary school where our boys attend. I love being there! Some days, it seems like every kid needs a hug or just someone to show they care. It's a great way to spread God's love!

The Elkhorn Girls Group is going strong. During Christmas, we held a bake sale, painted Christmas ornaments, and enjoyed a Christmas party together. We had a chance to talk about the meaning of Christmas and it's importance in all of our lives. The girls commented on how they are seeing God working in them through struggles in their families lives. *Please keep them in your prayers.* They've begun memorizing a new set of verses, so *pray that God's Word will live in their hearts and be reflected in their lives.* We're

counting down the days until our beach trip in June. I've been in touch with some people in Charleston, SC, lining up fun things for us to do!

*Please pray for our trip.*

Bob is working with some young adults who are pursuing a GED and tutoring some middle-school students. In addition, he has started a weekly Bible Club that meets at the center every Thursday afternoon. They had 11 kids (kindergarten - fifth grade) there last week. They're looking at Scripture to learn about the attributes of God. The kids enjoy it, and most of them remember the previous week's lesson! *Pray that they'll place their trust in Christ and live for him.* They could be tremendous witnesses in their families, neighborhood, and school. Thanks, Wendy Hammond"

### **EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR**

**March 10-12:** WIC Leadership Training Conference.

**March 12-15:** Mercy Conference in Chattanooga, TN.

**May 16:** Presbytery and PresWIC Meetings at Kanawha Salines.

**June 16-19:** 37<sup>th</sup> General Assembly at the Coronado Springs Convention Center, Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

**September 19:** Presbytery and PresWIC meetings at Trinity PC in New Martinsville.

**September 25-26:** PresWIC Annual Fall Retreat at the John XXIII Pastoral Center.

### **CIDBITS**

Here is a riddle that some of you might have seen before, but which still amazes me whenever I come across it. I hope you have fun with it and find the answer!

*God made Adam out of dust,  
But thought it best to make me first;  
So I was made before the man,  
According to God's holy plan.  
My whole body God made complete,  
Without arms or hands or feet.  
My ways and acts God did control,  
But in my body He placed no soul.  
A living being I became,  
And Adam gave to me a name.  
Then from his presence I withdrew,  
For this man Adam I never knew.*

*All my Maker's laws I do obey,  
And from these laws I never stray.  
Thousands of me go in fear,  
But seldom on the earth appear.  
Later, for a purpose God did see,  
He placed a living soul in me.  
But that soul of mine God had to claim,  
And from me took it back again.  
And when this soul from me had fled,  
I was the same as when first made.  
Without arms, legs, feet or soul,  
I travel on from pole to pole.*

*My labors are from day to night,  
And to men I once furnished light.  
Thousands of people both young  
and old,  
Did my death bright lights behold.  
No right or wrong can I conceive,  
The Bible and it's teachings I can't believe.  
The fear of death doesn't trouble me;  
Pure happiness I will never see.  
And up in Heaven I can never go,  
Nor in the grave or hell below.  
So get your Bible and read with care;  
You'll find my name recorded there.*

This puzzle was written by a lady in CA in 1890 in response to a gentleman in Philadelphia who said he would pay \$1,000 to anyone who could write a puzzle he could not solve. He couldn't! The answer is one word, five letters long, and appears only 4 times in the KJV Bible. An 8 year old boy figured out the puzzle, can you?

We end with a special note of **THANKS** to Dave Fry of Covenant PC. Dave is the web master for the New River Presbytery web site, and he has added October's New River News and Reviews to the web site, under "PresWIC Activities", and will be adding this one in the next week or so. Check it out Ladies!  
[www.newriverpca.org](http://www.newriverpca.org)