

NEW RIVER NEWS AND REVIEWS

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

July & August, 2009

Hello dear Ladies!

Happy Summer! I don't know about you, but these cooler temperatures are making this a very happy summer for yours truly! Thank you Lord!

As many of you know, this year marks the 500th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin, and I encourage you to learn much more about this great man of God than the "5 Points of Calvinism", incredibly important as they are! Tim and I have been reading the July issue of "TABLETALK" magazine, and the articles are filled with insight into his life and ministry.

Do any of you have friends or family that simply cringe when you mention John Calvin's name? We do, and it's so sad that they deny themselves the richness of his heritage because of their misconceptions of him as grim, cold and merciless. (I'm paraphrasing what one of our friends said.)

This is so far from the truth! "Calvin was a pastor deeply occupied in the care of souls. He was touched with the feeling of their infirmities. He dealt gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he knew himself to be beset with weakness". (Quoted from Dr. David Powlison's article in Tabletalk..) "On the opening page of every edition of Calvin's "Institutes of the Christian Religion" stand the words that were the unifying motif of his life: "True and sound wisdom consists of two parts: the knowledge of

God and of ourselves." (Quoted from Rev. Iain H. Murray's article in Tabletalk magazine.)

I pray that you will spend some getting to know John Calvin and his legacy. As Dr. R. C. Sproul said in his article in Tabletalk, "We owe a great debt to this man. He is God's gift to the church, not only in the sixteenth century but for all time."

With love and prayers and blessings, Barbara xxx

PREJWIC HIGHLIGHTS

From the May 19th meeting, held at Kanawha Salines Church in Malden. Ladies were present from Covenant, Faith Presbyterian, Faith Reformed, Kanawha Salines, Providence Reformed, and Winifrede.

WIC Leadership Training Conference:

This past March, Sue Parker and I drove down to Chattanooga together to attend Leadership Training. For myself, this was the best one I've attended so far! The Lord truly blessed our time there, both in the setting ... Covenant College on Lookout Mountain ... and in the sessions, and especially in the times we spent with the women from our own Mid-Atlantic Region. Sandy Currin, our WASC, (Women's Advisory Sub-Committee), Representative, from Durham, NC, is a wonderful leader with a passion for women's ministries.

This year's theme was:
"Family Matters; Loving, Equipping

and Serving God's Church".
We were taught "A Primer on Covenant Theology" by Dr. Stephen Eastock a mini college course in two 45 minute parts very appropriate considering our setting! Part 1 - "Our Covenant God - I will bless you." Part 2 - "Our Covenant Family - You will be a blessing." One very powerful truth that I learned from our two sessions was this

God is ALWAYS the Initiator!

In addition to the times we spent in our own Regions, and a session that we spent with other women in similar leadership positions to our own, we also took 2 workshops each. Sue's were: "Good Neighbors" - based on Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan; and "Money Management" - encouraging wise stewardship in our ministries.

Mine were: "Housekeeping" - things run so much more smoothly when there is organization! So, DE-CLUTTER! And "Persevering With Grace When Our Leaders Let Us Down". Both Sue and I have lots we can share with you about all the sessions and workshops we attended, and we would love to come and talk to you about them. Just call or email us! Please!

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
phone: 1-800-283-1357.

Note: One DVD has just been mailed to the WIC contacts at each of our churches.

Nominations:

For the offices of President and Secretary. Their terms begin on January 1st, 2010, and end December 31st, 2011. We have received a nomination letter from Kay Reustle, Covenant in Nitro, for Barbara and Mary to serve another 2 year term, and both ladies are willing to continue to serve, and thank God for the opportunity to do so.

Stitches of Love Ministry:

Dianna Perdue reports that the ladies are busy sewing, and collecting baby items with no expiration dates, in readiness for their next visit to the Greenbrier Birthing Center in the Fall. Note: If anyone would like to donate items, please contact Dianna at 304 949-4089 or diannaperdue@suddenlink.net Dianna tell us that they will be visiting Emmanuel Baptist Church and our own Riverview PC to give a presentation about their ministry.

2009 Fall Retreat:

See details later on in this newsletter!

Follow-up Survey to "Peacemaking Women ... A Journey of Grace" 2008 Spring Conference:

For those of you who attended, we would be so blessed if you would fill out the survey that will be sent out to your churches in a week or two. It is our prayer that your answers to this survey will help us with the themes and guest speakers for future New River PresWIC retreats, training days and conferences. We've given the survey this title

"ARE YOU MORE AT PEACE IN YOUR HEART, MIND & SOUL THESE DAYS?"

Our next meeting will be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church in New Martinsville, on September 19th. Do please come and join us ... it's not all business!

PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCHES

For August: RUF (Reformed University Fellowship) at Marshall University.

Pray for our children going back to school and college.

Pray for their parents as they shepherd their children.

Pray for the Teachers.

For September: Faith Reformed in Fairmont.

Presbytery and PresWIC, meeting on September 19th at Trinity Presbyterian, New Martinsville. Fall Retreat, September 25th & 26th.

For October: Christ Community in Fairmont.

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.

An updated schedule will be available in September at the Fall Retreat.

PRAYER FOR THE PCA

It is our privilege to pray for two of the agencies in the PCA this year.

Covenant Theological Seminary (CTS)

and Mission to the World (MTW).

A copy of the prayer requests from both agencies has been given to your WIC or Women's Ministry Leader. If you would like me to email or snail mail a list to you, please call or email me.

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit." Jude 20

THOUGHTS ABOUT TODAY

This is something a dear friend shared with me a few months ago:

Without God,
our week would be:

Sunday,
Monday,
Tuesday,
Wednesday,
Thursday,
Friday,
and Saturday!

Have a blessed week!



◆ BOOK REVIEWS ◆

From Sue Parker, our Vice President from Providence Reformed in Barboursville, a couple of books recommended for personal or group study --

"Heaven" by Randy Alcorn (Tyndale Publishing):

"What will heaven be like? The author presents a thoroughly Biblical answer, based on years of careful study, presented in an engaging, reader-friendly style. "Heaven" will inspire readers to long for heaven while they're living on earth. Also available are a companion study guide, "Heaven For Kids", and a devotional based on this work: "50 Days of Heaven."

"What The Bible Says About Angels" by David Jeremiah, (Walk Through The Bible Ministries):

"Angels are mentioned 108 times in the Old Testament and 165 times in the New Testament. Not surprisingly, the world has some

misconceptions concerning angels. This 10-lesson study guide reveals these ungrounded notions and replaces them with the truth from the Biblical record."

Have **YOU** read any great books lately? Or have you been part of a really good Bible Study, either at home or at church? We'd love you to write and share them with us!



✿ "WOMEN'S CHOICE" ✿ PREGNANCY OUTREACH

From Kris Rollins, Covenant in Nitro: There is now a new website for "Woman's Choice" at: www.womanschoiceprc.org

A special time has been set aside for us to be able to pray together from our homes on Thursday nights at 9 pm. Please pray for:

- The end of legalized abortion in our nation.
- For the protection of the unborn. For the sanctity of life as God shows us.
- Bringing the women who attend the support groups under the umbrella of a Biblical church body.

Staying in touch: A way that the Lord has recently provided to stay closer in touch is a new Mom's class on Monday nights. This is with a support group intention, and is held from 6 - 7 pm on Monday nights at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Nitro.

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

★ FAVORITE CHURCH RECIPES ★

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 recipe comes from Marian Stemple at Trinity Presbyterian Church in New Martinsville.

HAM & CHEESE ROLLS

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Softened Butter or Margarine
2 Tbsps. Poppy Seeds
1 Tbsp. Prepared Mustard
1 Medium Onion (chopped)
1 tsp. Worcestershire Sauce

Mix these ingredients together.

3 doz. Small rolls - (Marion uses Hawaiian Sweet Rolls from the Deli Counter at Wal-Mart)
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Chipped Ham
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Grated Swiss Cheese, or Mozzarella Cheese

Method: Split the rolls in half, (the whole dozen at once). Spread the butter mixture evenly to edges on both halves of rolls. Spread the ham on bottom half and sprinkle with grated Swiss or Mozzarella cheese. Wrap in foil and heat in 400 oven for 15 minutes, or at a lower temperature for more time. Remove from oven and cut the rolls apart and serve.
(These can be frozen if not using them right away).

Ladies, these are simply delicious! Marion had made them when I visited Trinity, and I could have eaten a dozen of them! They are really, really scrumptious!

MISSIONARIES

Roma Marshall in Jinga, Uganda

"Oli Otya (greetings) from Jinja! The Global Outreach Children's Outpatient Clinic remains very busy, especially on the special clinic days of Monday and Wednesday for the HIV-AIDS, sickle cell and chronic illness children. Prayer is needed for continued provisions for these children."

In March Roma accompanied two missionaries to Buvuma Island, a two hour canoe journey out in Lake Victoria. They visited 4 churches in an effort to encourage their work. In the village of Katuba, Roma presented lessons to 36 women on disease prevention and HIV-AIDS facts. Each woman was given a copy of the lessons to take back to their villages to teach others.

Roma continues to share time at the Good Shepherd's Fold Orphanage Clinic. This clinic is open to the surrounding villages as well as assisting to care for the 80 resident children and staff.

Roma's personal prayer needs are as follows:

- Continued spiritual and physical wellness.
- Continued prayer support for the ministry.
 - A vehicle in good condition.
 - Travel mercies.
- That the pending sale of her home in Huntington will come to completion.

"Thank you all so very much for your support of prayers and finances. I am not able to carry out this ministry without you. May the Lord bless you and keep you."

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"**

Wendy and the Elkhorn Girls Group went to Charleston, SC for their annual "girls group vacation." This trip was full of "firsts" for the girls. Only one had ever seen the ocean, and none of them had ever swum in it! None had been on a boat until this vacation, and none had eaten at any of the restaurants where they dined. The Olive Garden was their favorite! On the way back home, they spent the night in a motel - another first for the girls - and had a cook-out and attended Sunday School and Worship with folks at one of the churches that has done several things for them. This trip was quite an experience, and Wendy was glad that the girls were able to experience Worship in a vibrant, loving church with kids their age pursuing a godly lifestyle.

Please continue to pray for Wendy and the girls group. And please pray that the girls will see Christ in Wendy and Bob and the boys and the way they live as a family.

**EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR
CALENDAR**

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.
January 23rd, 2010: Presbytery and PresWIC meetings.
February 25-27: WIC Leadership Training Conference, Atlanta.
March 11-13: Mercy Ministries Conference, Chattanooga, TN.

**2009 PRESWIC FALL
RETREAT**

**Mark your calenders! Friday 25th
and Saturday 26th September.**

The ladies at Covenant in Nitro are very excited about this year's Retreat! The guest speaker is Debbe Mays, and many of you will remember Debbe and her husband Pastor Rod Mays from the many years they served here in New River Presbytery at Covenant and Providence Reformed. Debbe is a gifted speaker with a heart for women and families. She currently serves on the staff of Mitchell Road Presbyterian Church in Greenville, SC, as Counselor to Women and Families.

Debbe will be speaking to us about:

♥
"Critical Spirits: Dissatisfied Hearts"
♥

"Above all, keep loving one another, since love covers a multitude of sins."
1 Peter 4:8

**You should have received your 1st
bulletin insert, or you will be very
shortly! This one is general**

information, and has the names of the ladies to contact if you have any questions. The registration forms will be sent out soon, and a final bulletin insert will go out in September with more details of the events planned.

Please be in prayer for the Fall Retreat Committee, for our guest speaker Debbe Mays, and for the folks at the John XXIII Pastoral Center.

TIDBITS

Did anyone work out the puzzle from our last newsletter? I didn't get any calls or emails, so I think I'll let you have the answer! The five letter word that appears only 4 times in the KJV Bible is:

WHALE!

Of course, once you know this, it's easy to see how the puzzle fits!

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 once again he will be adding this edition of the New River News and Reviews to the web site. Just click on "PresWIC Activities" and you will find the link there. Check it out Ladies!
www.newriverpca.org