

## **Presbyterian Women**

*Sue Miskiewicz, Moderator*

Northwood's Presbyterian Women (PW) participate in Bible study, fellowship, service and prayer and become supportive friends along the way!

Our primary activities in 2015 were as follows:

- Donated monthly allowance support and holiday gifts and offered encouragement to a cottage of young women at Thornwell Home for Children in Clinton, SC.
- Donated 275 handmade knitted, crocheted and sewn items such as prayer shawls, afghans, walker caddies for local rehab centers, little dresses for Haiti With Love, newborn caps for Mease Countryside Hospital, and baby items for The Pregnancy Center.
- Managed a Collection Center in the south narthex for small collectible items such as aluminum can tabs for the Shriners, pill bottles for the Clearwater Free Clinic, and Items for the dental clinic at Beth El and because of memorial donations in honor and memory of PW members were able to vastly increase our missions.
- Provided financial support to PW Church-wide missions through the Birthday Offering and the Thank Offering.
- Donated gifts and provided funds for the RCS food pantry in Clearwater, Northwood's food pantry, Women on the Way at St. Petersburg College, Beth-El Farmworker Ministry, "From Haiti with Love," Alliance for International Reforestation, Heifer International, and Church World Service.
- Through the Alternative Gifts campaign sponsored by Lydia Circle, we honored 20 men and donated \$385 to Church World Service for Father's Day; and we honored 79 people and donated \$2,195 to eight local, national and international ministries for Christmas..
- Led the congregation on "Blanket Sunday" to collect more than 227 blankets and 20 suitcases and \$350 cash donations for Beth-El Farmworker Ministry.
- Donated homemade cookies and decorations and partnered with Northwood's Kitchen Krew to host memorial receptions and serve coffee one Sunday morning per month.
- Honored one woman with the "Honorary Life Membership" during our "Gifts of Women" Sunday morning service. The woman honored this year was Patty Martin.
- Sent cards of encouragement to homebound PW members.
- Sponsored Women on the Way students and their children for Christmas, and contributed to boutique and text book needs. Also donated books to Kings Highway Elementary Library.
- Participated in Discovery Day
- Conducted monthly service projects such as collecting food for the Northwood Food Pantry and cleaning the pews in the sanctuary
- Initiated Women's Ministry articles for inclusion in monthly publications.
- Welcomed 4 new members into active Circle Membership

All women of Northwood are welcome at any time of year to join us at our Circle meetings, Bible study and book club and to volunteer to make cookies for memorial receptions. It is a meaningful way to serve the Lord while making new friends and feeling more at home at Northwood!

- Circles are currently using the Horizon Bible Study, "Cloud of Witnesses" by Melissa Bane Sevier.

- Pastor Chris Curvin leads a study the first Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am at the church.
- Esther Elizabeth Circle, under the leadership of Sandy Gibson meets the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am at the church
- Lydia Circle, under the leadership of Barbara Englehart, meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the church
- Naomi Circle, under the leadership of Jean Swintek, meets the second Monday of each month at 1:00 pm in the homes of members
- Fresh Brewed Life, under the leadership of Sally Uhler, meets the first Friday of the month of at 10:30 am at the church. They are currently studying "Women of Wisdom" based on Proverbs by Dee Breston.
- The Tuesday Project Day Group (Women's Sewing Circle), under the leadership of Evelyn Towns, meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am at the church. Members and friends craft handmade articles at home as well as at their meeting.
- The "4<sup>th</sup> Monday Book Club" meets at the church, and has been going strong for over 20 years, and meets at 10:00 a.m. and go to lunch following.