

PNW Women

Spring 2021

Greetings from the President

I have been praying for the women of God during this time of Covid. For many of us, there have been drastic changes in our lives and daily routines. Some changes may even be permanent-we may never go back to things the way they used to be. But then we need to remember that though the world is always changing, "Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8 We can depend on His unchanging love and grace.

I pray that all of us are growing in our "changes". Afterall, many of us have already faced numerous changes in our lives: getting married, having children, becoming empty nesters, having a career (or not), becoming grandparents, going through "the change", dealing with failing bodies and even minds, moving (how many times?). I am afraid that is just what it means to be a **woman!** We deal with changes ALL the time. One of the big differences, however, has been that most changes are gradual and Covid seems to have hit us hard and relatively quickly.

And so, my sisters, I pray that during these past 12 months we have found time to change positively. Perhaps we have found more time during the day to spend in prayer. Perhaps we have found more time to call friends. Perhaps we have found time to crochet, read a good book, bake bread, or write notes to family and friends. Most of all, I pray that we have found more time with Jesus.

If anyone has felt lost or alone during this time of Covid, I encourage you to hold onto the truth of Hebrew 13:8. Hold onto the consistency of Jesus' love and His grace. And may your heart be filled with His peace.

Blessings,

Gail

Inside this issue:

Reports from our officers	2
Treasurer's report	3
Scholarship	5
Prayer Request	6
Devotions	6
Conference Update	7

In the last newsletter, I asked for book recommendations. I did receive a response from Lois Dahlberg for the following:

The Recipe Box by Viola Shipman

This book is about family that owns an orchard with a family history. They bake lots of apples and run a little pie shop.

From author Richard Peck are two books that go together. *A Long Way From Chicago* and *A Year Down Yonder*. Both are set in the 1930 era.

These books and many, many more are available at the Judson Bookstore - <https://mjudsonbooks.com/>

I would like to try and have a book swap at conference. If you have book or two you would like to swap for another book, please bring the book/s to conference and I will set up a time for you to meet with someone to talk about your books and then swap them.

If anyone else has books to recommend, please let me know.

Lorna Flannery
Literature Coordinator
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253-307-2245

On January 16th, many girls from the high school age range attended a workshop hosted by American Baptist Women Ministry. The name of the workshop is “Be-You-Tiful”, which is intended for young girls to build their self confidence, be affirmed in their identity and have a fun meeting with other girls across the country. Of those who attended the workshop were 4 of our girls from the Karen community church. The workshop consisted of a series of guest speakers and other interactive activities such as kickboxing and making our own skin care out of simple ingredients that can easily be found in our kitchens. The activities were thoughtfully planned out in a way that it encouraged the girls to share their feelings about what it means to be holistically beautiful and hear from others.

After the workshop, one of the girls from our church said that she “really enjoyed the workshop and would totally participate if anything like this comes up” in the future.



Overall, it was really meaningful to see girls and young women come together to be a safe space to share, to fellowship, and just have fun! We look forward to having another meeting like this!

Eh Ler Tha Win—Coordinator of Young Adult Women

ABWM/PACIFIC NORTHWEST TREASURER'S REPORT January 1, 2021					
SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS INCOME/EXPENSES					2020
GENERAL FUND					
Beginning 9/30/2020		\$2,287.71			NPS \$128.00
Income					FW \$130.00
Per Capita	\$50.00				INSO
Other Income	\$1.71				WIMA
Expenses	(\$1,000.00)	(Refuge Resettlement)			CA
Net Income		(\$948.29)			Total \$258.00
Balance as of 1/1/2021				\$1,339.42	
DESIGNATED FUNDS					
Beginning Balance 09/30/2020			\$7,583.27		
Income					
Miscellaneous Designated Funds					
Coordinator of Events	\$500.00				
Coordinator of Resources and News					
Notes	\$550.00				
Conference					
Conference Book Store					
Conf Special Offering	\$1,783.08				
Conf Scholarship					
Conf Scholarship (from P	\$1,000.00				
Scholarships For Furthering Your					
Education	\$1,000.00				
General Fund	\$1,100.00				
Kachin Scholarship					
Presidents	\$1,800.00				
Vital Partners/Vital Ministry	\$900.00				
Discretionary					
PNW AB Girls Fund					
Love Gift					
PNW Young Adult Women's Fund					
Nat'l ABW- Support Fund					
Total Income			\$8,633.08		
Expenses					
Miscellaneous Designated Funds		(\$50.00)			
Coordinator of Events					
Coordinator of Resources and News					
Notes		(\$77.00)			
Conference					
Conference Book Store					
Conf Special Offering		(\$1,853.08)			
Conf Scholarship					
Conf Scholarship (from NPS)					
Scholarships For Furthering Your					
Education					
General Fund					
Kachin Scholarship					
Presidents					
Vital Partners/Vital Ministry		(\$300.00)			
Discretionary					
PNW AB Girls Fund					
Love Gift					
PNW Young Adult Women's Fund					
Nat'l ABW- Support Fund					
Total Expenses			(\$2,280.08)		
Balance as of 1/1/2021				\$13,936.27	
Bank Balance as of 1/1/2021				\$15,275.69	
ABEC NOTE AS OF 1/1/2021 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS				\$29,276.40	

AMBW/PACIFIC NORTHWEST DESIGNATED FUNDS January 1, 2021				
	Balance 9/30/2020	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance 1/1/2021
Miscellaneous Designated Funds	\$736.57		(\$50.00)	\$686.57
Coordinator of Events		\$500.00		\$500.00
Coordinator of Resources and News Notes		\$550.00	(\$77.00)	\$473.00
Conference	\$2,103.48			\$2,103.48
Conference Book Store	\$492.90			\$492.90
Conf Special Offering	\$70.00	\$1,783.08	(\$1,853.08)	\$0.00
Conf Scholarship	\$877.31			\$877.31
Conf Scholarship (from NPS)		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Scholarships For Furthering Your Education		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
General Fund		\$1,100.00		\$1,100.00
Kachin Scholarship	\$1,034.00			\$1,034.00
Presidents	\$278.26	\$1,800.00		\$2,078.26
Vital Partners/Vital Ministry		\$900.00	(\$300.00)	\$600.00
Discretionary	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
PNW FUNDS				
PNW AB Girls Fund	\$580.57	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$580.57
Love Gift	\$0.00			\$0.00
PNW Young Adult Women's Fund	\$410.18	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$410.18
NAT'L FUNDS				
Nat'l ABW- Support Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nat'l AB Girls-Support Fund				\$0.00
				\$0.00
Total Designated Funds	\$7,583.27	\$8,633.08	(\$2,280.08)	\$13,936.27



Amid the coronavirus pandemic, we may be struggling to get used to new daily routines and adjusting our way of living. At the same time, during these months of isolation, many of us may have surprised ourselves with newfound skills, or improved the old. Has this experienced form of “creativity”, inspired you to do more and be more?

We are requesting donations of handicrafts; big and small for this year's Conference Auction. The proceeds will go to support our mission project. For more information, please reach out to Gail Aita: gailrosemary@gmail.com

American Baptist

Women's
MINISTRIES

OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Each year American Baptist Women's Ministries of the Pacific Northwest offers \$500 annual scholarships to qualified students who are preparing for full time Christian service. Three scholarships are offered each year. This year's scholarship award will apply to the academic year 2021-2022.

Applicant guidelines are included in this newsletter to help you choose qualified students who need this added financial help on their way to serving the Lord in meaningful ministry. Application forms can be found on our webpage: <https://www.abwm-pnw.org/>

The application form and references must be postmarked no later than April 30th, 2021. The final decisions will be made by our Scholarship Committee by May 31st, 2021 and all applicants will be mailed notification by June 10th, 2021.

Cathy Kernen, Chair
Scholarship Committee ABWM/PNW
Phone: 253 335 1464
Email: ceekay@nwfirst.com

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS (FOR THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR)

1. Applicant must be an active member of an American Baptist Church.
2. Applicant must be at the college senior level or graduate level of study, preparing for full time Christian service with American Baptist Churches USA.
3. The applicant must provide the following:
 - a) complete application form (incomplete forms, or forms postmarked no later than April 30th will be automatically disqualified)
 - b) three references from: a women in their local church, their pastor and from a friend.
4. Priority will be given to (but others will certainly be considered)
 - a) Pacific Northwest women
 - b) students attending an accredited school related to, or supportive of, American Baptist Churches USA
5. Application must be postmarked by April 30th, 2021, and scholarship will be given at the fall term.
6. Final selections of the Scholarship Committee will be made by May 31st, 2021, and all applicants will be mailed notification of the award by June 10, 2021.
7. ABWM/PNW Scholarship to be given is \$500, to be used for tuition/fees/housing assistance/books for the recipient.
8. It is expected that any recipient of one of our scholarships will keep in touch with the Chair of the Scholarship Committee at least twice during the school year to share concerns and progress.
9. Applicants may re-apply for a scholarship in subsequent years.

Prayer Request

The second Sunday of March has been designated as the Global Day of Prayer for Burma. On March 14, the American Baptist Women's Ministries of the Pacific Northwest hosted a virtual Prayer Meeting to pray together and share testimonies from women from three churches in the greater Seattle area - the Karen Community Church, Washington Kachin Baptist Church, and the Washington Chin Baptist Church.

Background:

In February of 2021, the Burma military seized power in a coup to overthrow the result of the democratically elected government led by Aung San Suu Kyi and other leaders in the National League for Democracy. Many of them were attacked, arrested and killed. This prompted hundreds of thousands of people to come out, protest and start a Civil Disobedience Movement. This resulted in even more brutal attacks on the people of Burma by the military and the police. The Burma Army also has increased its attacks against the ethnic nationalities: the Karen, Kachin and many more, displacing thousands, and while many are already displaced in western Burma, including the Rohingya, who were being attacked and forced out of Burma by the regime.

We ask that you continue to pray for all that is happening in Burma at this time. Pray for:

- * The government leaders, that they would lead with integrity and compassion for all the people of Burma and not be swayed by power or wealth.
- * Greater political and religious freedom in Burma. The safety and freedom for all those who have been arrested and detained by the military government for speaking out against the military coup. That truth will be found and that leaders would be held accountable and that witnesses would be able to speak boldly and safely.
- * Pray for peace and reconciliation. Unity between the ethnic groups as they work to help their people and for peaceful and productive conversations between the central Burma government and ethnic groups.
- * Pray for those displaced by the years long conflicts. Pray for refuges and provisions during the difficult time, comfort and healing for those who lose loved ones, and hope that one day they will be able to return to their homes and communities, to live safely and freely.

Devotions: Beloved Community

In my Strong's concordance, the word beloved is listed 47 times in the Old Testament and since song of Solomon has the word 4 times, the number is higher. There are 62 New Testament references many refer to Jesus as God's beloved son, or they refer to specific people of the time. But some refer to us, I John 3:2 says "beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. I John 4:7 says "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Beloved Community (continued)

As his beloved community of believers, we each need to ask ourselves if we are loving others. We do not have to agree with what others do or say, but we do need to love. I have for a long time said I love all 5 of my children, I like 3 of them.

In our world today we need to love those who are very often unlovable and who would use us if they can. We may have to distance ourselves from someone, but we never stop caring and praying and then possibly we show our loving Savior to all we come in contact with. Each of us needs to stop and ask ourselves are we living as His beloved community?

Songs are:

“Lord lay some soul upon my heart” Hymn # 313, by Dr. Leon Tucker and Ira D. Sankey

“I am loved”, by William J. and Gloria Gaither

“His Banner over me is Love”

“Love lifted me” Hymn# 505, by James Rowe and Howard E. Smith

Betsy Jane Mosley—Coordinator of Personal Development

Our existence has many doors, which each serves a purpose that ultimately helps us define who we are. Sometimes these doors are hard to open. Often we might think it will never open. It takes patience and perseverance, but we must believe that we already have every key for each door we encounter. Imagine your heart as the keychain, where all the keys we will ever need in our lifetime are dangling, waiting for us to use. If you want to find yourself while opening these doors of life, but don't know where to look, search behind every door, pray and ask for God's guidance, for there will be your spirit. Search for the traits you both admire and abhor, and there will be your nature. Search for what you give away, and there will be your needs. Search for what brings you life, and there will be your heart. Search everywhere, and there will be self-trying to find its way home. Each one of us have been placed on this earth to discover our own path, and we will never be happy if we try live someone else's idea of our life. When you are presented with opportunities or have a desire to do something with your life, approach them with an attitude of prayerful flexibility and one that can see each door as just another phase of your life's purpose. Your faith and God will always open new doors in your life when you look toward Him.

⁷“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. ~ Matthew 7:7-8 NIV

Heavenly Father, thank You for always seeing me and my needs. I know that if I truly believe, the doors You have opened no-one will be able to shut, and the doors You have closed, no-one will be able to open. Thank you for closing all doors of evil over my life and for opening the doors I need; those doors of heaven, in alignment with Your will. Amen

- Jacklyn Williams

American Baptist Women of the Pacific Northwest
Tina Po
32744 35th Ave SW
Federal Way, WA 98023

We would like to hear from you.

Please submit articles and news for our Newsletters and Website to:

Tina.po2001@gmail.com

Also, please let me know if you would like to receive the newsletter electronically.

We are on the web!
www.abwm-pnw.org

HEADS UP

The ABWM/PNW is beginning to make plans for a possible virtual **SPRING GATHERING** to be held some time in April or May. Please check our web page at www.abwm-pnw.org for further information. We will also be making contact by e-mails.



UPDATE: 2021 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

I am sooo... looking forward to conference. I have missed seeing everyone and worshipping together.

The Women's Conference has been rescheduled for October 1-3, 2021. The conference committee has been meeting and although we thought we could do a virtual conference this spring, we feel that an in person conference is more of what we would like to have. We are praying and hoping that by October everyone would be able to receive their vaccination and the restrictions would be lifted enough that we can provide a safe and comfortable conference setting. We will still have the conference in Yakima.

Please pray for the conference committee as we continue to plan for conference and we look forward to seeing you in October.

Lorna Flannery—Conference Committee Chair