

Women in the Church Report 2017
January 31, 2018

The ministry of Women in the Church (WIC) includes all women who attend Faith Presbyterian Church. We have three main areas in which we seek to encourage and bless each other and our church family. These are to grow in our knowledge of the Lord, to grow in fellowship and love for one another, and to serve the body of Christ here at Faith. WIC does this in a variety of ways.

A women's Bible Study that meets on Tuesday mornings at the church provides an excellent opportunity both for growth in the Lord and for encouragement of women in their walk with the Lord and in their personal lives. This past year our group of about 20 women studied Dr. Robert Rogland's books on 1&2 Peter and Galatians.

The Mothers' Encouragement Group (MEG), led by Florence Rayburn, meets twice a month and encourages women with younger or preschool children, in their lives as wives and mothers.

Throughout the WIC year, which runs from September to August, we have planned five large group meetings and four events. Our theme this year is "Building on a Firm Foundation" and our goal is to build each other up. (1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.")

The first WIC meeting in September included a buffet dinner for about 64 women. Pastor Rayburn gave our introductory talk entitled "Building on a Firm Foundation".

The women's retreat, held October 5-7, 2017 in Seabrook, WA was attended by 32 women. Our topic this year was "Redeeming the Detours". Dawn Darby brought four messages on trials and suffering and how the Lord can redeem these in our lives.

In November, our meeting included a personal testimony by Emily Downie and a missionary report by April Murphree. Our larger effort went to preparing harvest bags for our older or shut-in members, which were appreciated by the 32 people/couples who received them.

On December 2, 2017 we held our Christmas brunch with about 90 women in attendance. Dana Skogen, wife of Pastor Kevin Skogen of Sandhills Presbyterian Church, spoke on "Beauty and Suffering".

In January, our meeting was a social event featuring snacks and the game of Bunco, enjoyed by 26 women. Other meetings this year will feature more of our women sharing different aspects of their lives. We will also enjoy missions reports, book reports and special music. A spring tea and fashion show are scheduled for April 28. Diane Collins will be our speaker. And a field trip in May will round out our activities for the 2017/2018 year.

Other ways WIC has ministered to our church family has been through meals on wheels for those who are sick or who have recently had a baby, hosting showers for brides or new mothers, taking care of special needs for our sisters like house cleaning, staffing the nursery for church services, providing coffee after the morning services, and many other acts of service.

We are thankful for each of you who work behind the scenes to bring encouragement to one another. It is a blessing to know so many women who are wise and earnest about walking before the Lord and who are willing to encourage and share their lives with one another. We encourage all women to get involved with WIC. We hope to grow in grace and the knowledge of the Lord together. (2 Peter 3:18)

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn Darby, President
Shari Roland, Vice President
Beth James, Treasurer
Janie Irwin, Secretary
Nancy Rowan, Member at Large