

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church

Women's Fellowship
Annual Meeting



January 10, 2017

SLATE FOR 2017

CHAIRPERSONS: EMMA WRIGHT KATHY FRAKES

DEVOTIONS: PAT JOHNSTONE

RECORDING SECRETARY: NANCY PETERSON

TREASURER: PAT MULLANEY

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: MARY JOHNSON

CONGREGATIONAL CARD LIAISON: MARY LOU URIDGE

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: MARTHA SCHWARTZENBERG

PROGRAMS: KAY VANDEGRAAF

MARTHA COMMITTEE: LYNNE MILLIES MARTHA SCHWARTZENBERG

PUBLICITY: SANDI COOK

SIGNS/GRAPHICS: CATHY LEVERENZ

MEMBERS AT LARGE: DARLENE SULAD ROBERTA TURPIN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: MARY JOHNSON SANDI COOK

2016 Women's Fellowship Chairperson's Report

The Women's Fellowship is an organization within the church in which every woman is a member and is encouraged to participate in all activities. Some programs are planned for the daytime and some for evenings. Our aim is to promote friendship, faith, fellowship, community awareness and to share the love we have for this church.

Throughout the following pages of this yearly report, our programs, activities, fund raisers and charities are listed for your information and understanding. Our major fund raiser, our Fall Rummage Sale, is an event that asks the entire congregation to come together for fellowship and a worthwhile cause. In 2016 we were rewarded with the cooperation of over seventy volunteers...not only from our church family, but from many friends and relatives.

In addition to our charitable giving, this year we took on the cost of a weekly ad in the Grosse Pointe News to make sure the public is aware that we are here, vital, and an open, welcoming Christian congregation.

We have enjoyed being co-chairs of the organization during the past year and extend our thanks to the dedicated women on the board who make unselfish contributions of their time and talents for the betterment of our church and church family.

In Christian Fellowship,
CO-Chairpersons: Emma Wright and Kathy Frakes

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
 Women's Fellowship
 2017 Budget

INCOME:

\$ 7,300.00

RUMMAGE SALE		\$ 6,000.00
WHITE ELEPHANT		\$ 500.00
OTHER		\$ 800.00

EXPENSES:

\$ (7,300.00)

HOME CHURCH:		\$ 2,050.00
Discretionary	\$ 1,000.00	
Flowers for Sanctuary	\$ 150.00	
Martha Service	\$ 200.00	
Program/Speakers	\$ 200.00	
Staff Christmas Gifts	\$ 500.00	

SUPPORTING CHURCH GROUPS:		\$ 150.00
Church Women United of Metro Detroit	\$ 50.00	
UCC Women of Michigan	\$ 100.00	

OUTREACH PROJECTS:		\$ 5,100.00
Alzheimer's Association	\$ 200.00	
Crossroads	\$ 500.00	
Detroit Rescue Mission	\$ 100.00	
Family Center	\$ 200.00	
Focus Hope	\$ 200.00	
Friends of GP Library	\$ 100.00	
Friends of Vision	\$ 200.00	
Gleaners	\$ 300.00	
Habitat for Humanity	\$ 500.00	
Mercy Education Project	\$ 200.00	
Paws with a Cause	\$ 200.00	
Red Sweater Project	\$ 500.00	
Ronald McDonald House	\$ 100.00	
Salvation Army	\$ 200.00	
Services for Older Citizens	\$ 500.00	
Seedlings	\$ 100.00	
Special Olympics	\$ 100.00	
The Fowler Center	\$ 200.00	
Turning Point	\$ 200.00	
World Medical Relief	\$ 100.00	
Wounded Warrior Project	\$ 200.00	
YWCA Interim House	\$ 200.00	

NET PROFIT/LOSS

\$ -

Spiritual Life

The spiritual life chairperson begins all Women's Fellowship Board meetings with devotional. She is also responsible for saying grace before Women's Fellowship luncheons. Blessing bag money collected was donated to a worthy cause.

God Bless.

Respectfully submitted

Pat Johnstone

Martha Annual Report for 2016

This year we helped with receptions for: Don McCarty in May, Chapman Cunningham in June, Marge Williams in June, and Sam Nelson in July.

There was also a reception for Donna Bothe, a former member, in November but her church handled the reception in the Social Hall downstairs and brought in all the food for a luncheon. Nancy Peterson and Mary Lou Uridge were asked to help.

Mary Lou and Nancy helped with all of the receptions.

Other wonderful helpers were:

Sandi Cook, Kathy Frakes, Pat Mullaney, Darlynn Pierzynski, and Kay VanDeGraaf.

Martha and Lynne shared co-chairing.

And a great big thanks to all who contributed their lovely, scrumptious cookies!

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Schwartzberg and Lynne Millies

FUND RAISING IN 2016

White Elephants

On a cold and icy evening in January, Pat Mullaney hosted the Annual White Elephant Auction and Pasta Supper. This popular event was well attended as usual. Each person brought a contribution to the meal and an object or two for the auction. Once again, Emma Wright, with wit and efficiency, performed the duty of auctioneer. A sizable amount of money was raised. It has been suggested that the next time we hold this event be in the spring of 2017 to avoid the difficulty of maneuvering in the snow and ice. So that's the plan!

Rummage Sale

Our October rummage sale was a huge success. We asked for help and our prayers were answered. The major fund raiser of the G.P.C.C. Women's Fellowship received wonderful support from the congregation, our friends and families. I like to call this a "Sale By Committee" because each area had a chairman who took care of the unique nature of his/her merchandise and took complete control of their displays and sales. A multitude of goods were contributed, strong backs hauled the merchandise downstairs, many sorted, priced, bought, sold, counted, acted as security, boxed and bagged leftovers and cleaned up afterward.

Emma Wright negotiated with the Salvation Army for Saturday pickup of leftovers and arranged for an attractive ad in the Grosse Pointe News. In spite of a health problem which limited her participation on site, Emma's spirit was with us every day! Aaron Tavalare took care of advertising on the internet. Sandi Cook made sure we had all the supplies needed, Alan Wright provided his truck for pick-ups and underwrote two extra helpers from his business to aid in the furniture area. Alex McNeill provided soup from the Grubb House and Martha Schwartzenberg and Nancy Peterson spent hours in the kitchen keeping the workers well fed. John Ratsek was a huge help before, during and after the sale. Pastor Richard was present at all times as was our Moderator, Peterson Decker, both helping when needed and always encouraging.

Proceeds from the sale will support community outreach programs, projects in our building and several charities.

You were a great team, I can't begin to add every name to this report, but I sincerely hope I thanked you in person. A lot of love and Christian spirit is alive and well in our church family. It's a joy to be part of G.P.C.C.

Congratulations everybody on a successful sale...over \$7,000.00 raised. Thank you!

Kathy Frakes,

On behalf of the Women's Fellowship Board.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP PUBLICITY REPORT - 2016

It has been a pleasure to serve as Publicity Chairman of the Women's Fellowship for the year 2016. The Publicity Chairman gathers pertinent information from the Women's Fellowship about their activities. This information is then given to Georgia Wrinkle and Laurie Schmidt, Church Secretary for publication in the monthly Comment and the Sunday Bulletin.

Articles are written for the Grosse Pointe News when requested by various Chairpersons such as fund-raising projects and community events. Pictures may also be included.

The Women's Fellowship held our annual Pasta Supper/White Elephant fundraiser at the home of Pat Mullaney on January 26. Emma Wright once again served as auctioneer and we raised funds for our various outreach projects.

A wonderful Valentine's Concert featuring The Grosse Pointe Chapter Lakeshore Chorus of Barbershoppers led by Carl Uridge and The Festival of Flutes featuring Laurie Strachen was sponsored by the Women's Fellowship on February 9. The audience was entertained by a variety of songs.

The making of Palm Crosses on March 15 was once again led by Maureen Christian. This was a fun and productive evening with crosses being made for the congregation for Palm Sunday.

The Women's Fellowship sponsored a trip to the Designer Show House on Tuesday evening, May 17. Thanks to Margy Penirian and Kay VanDeGraaf for arranging such an interesting and fun evening.

The Women's Fellowship sponsored a very successful fall rummage sale on October 7th and 8th, raising more than Seven Thousand (\$7,000.00) Dollars to be used for our various programs. A picture and article were submitted to the Grosse Pointe News.

The Grosse Pointe Chapter Lakeshore Chorus of 'Barbershoppers and the festival of Flutes performed a thank you Christmas Concert for the Church on Tuesday evening, November 29. The Women's Fellowship assisted with refreshments following the program.

Women's Fellowship activities are open to all women of the Church for both daytime and evening programs.

I look forward to serving as your Publicity Chairman in the year 2017.

Respectfully Submitted



Sandi Cook

Publicity Chair - 2016

SIGNS AND GRAPHICS

My job on the Women's Fellowship Board of Signs and Graphics involves attending the monthly board meetings to learn about upcoming Women's Fellowship happenings and then creating posters and sign-up sheets to advertise them. From the annual all-church rummage sale to the pasta supper/white elephant sale and everything in-between, I enjoy the creativity involved in this job. I love the fact that although our numbers are small, we continue to be active and doing wonderful things as the Women's Fellowship of Grosse Pointe Congregational Church. Most of my signs have been made on the computer, but I have also done larger posters and helped with showcase displays. It is my pleasure and honor to continue to serve on the Women's Fellowship Board and I look forward to another exciting year.

Cathy Leverenz
January 2017

Card Liaison Report : 2016

As card liaison person I am responsible for sending cards to church members. This year I sent out thirty (30) cards.

Rather than signing them from the Women's Fellowship, we started putting them out on Sundays for church members and friends to sign. This has worked out well.

Respectfully submitted,
MaryLou Uridge

Grosse Pointe Congregational Church
2016 Women's Fellowship
Program Chair Report

Jan. 5 Officers installation and Board meeting

Feb. 2 Board meeting

9 Valentine Barbershop Chorus - dessert after

March 2 Board meeting

Painting at Rainy Day Co. – Among Friends Martha
Schwartzenberg

16 Palm crosses made for Palm Sunday

Maureen Christian in charge

April 5 Board meeting

May 3 Board meeting

10 Tour of the Junior League Show House with group Aprox. 10 people

Margie Penirian Contact

June 6 Planning party for Among Friends

23 Lunch at Jenifer Stockwell's "Just Desserts" Kay VanDeGraaf Chair

July and August No events

Sept. Opening Board meeting

Rally Sunday all church picnic – Jeri and John Gleichauf Chair

Oct. 2 thru 8 All church rummage sale – Kathy Frakes and Emma Wright

25 Salvation Army Commander lecture – Margie Penirian – Chair

Nov. 1 Board meeting

22 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service fellowship with Jewish Council

29 Lakeshore Barbershop Chorus Thank You Concert– W. A. did not
sponsor the concert but helped Marylou

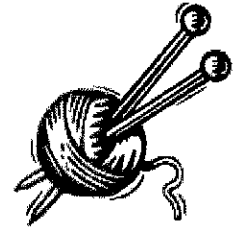
Dec. 2 Christmas Children's Workshop – Jeri Gleichauf Chair

17 Christmas Party – Pat Mullaney and Darlynn Pierzynski

Knit Wits Too 2016 Report to GPCC Women's Fellowship

The year 2016 provided the Knit Wits Too Circle with wonderful opportunities to implement the vision of Grosse Pointe Congregational Church: **RISE: Reach out, Inspire, Serve, Embrace diversity and have fun along the way.**

KW2 began its 13th season of meetings in September 2016. The kick-off meeting for the 2016-17 season was a well-attended pizza party. The group continues to meet once a month on the second Monday of the month



The 12th *Annual Share the Bounty, Share the Warmth Craft & Bake Sale* fundraiser was held November 13, 2016. Many handcrafted items and baked goods were sold, including mittens, hats and scarves, crock pot pads, cloth shopping bags, original art note cards, and a significant number of ceramic objects donated to KW2 by Anne Ambler from the Estate of Pewabic Potter and artist Effie Ambler. We are grateful for the contributions of Anne Archer, Phyllis Osler, Darlynnne Pierzynski and Lori Zurvalec. International Knit Wit, Barbara Meloche of Windsor, Ontario, also donated a considerable number of lovely items including many pairs of mittens.

The proceeds from the sale and other fundraising totaled \$946. The recipient of the funds was Friendship House in Hamtramck. Friendship House is a community resource network of "neighbors helping neighbors," dedicated to meeting basic human needs and fulfilling dreams for a healthy peaceful community, through the power of God at work in the world. Friendship House was founded in 1929 by the Detroit Missionary Society of the American Baptist Home Mission Society. It provides meals to the hungry for residents of Detroit and Hamtramck.

We are grateful to the GPCC church family for its support of the KW2 sale and the opportunity it provides to serve "the least of these."

The 9th *Annual Share the Warmth of God's Love Scarf* project was completed in December 2016. Ten knitters created 109 scarves. Mary Lou Uridge continues to lead the pack, with Darlynnne Pierzynski a close second. Other scarf makers were Anne Archer, Cathy Leverenz, Betsy Martin, Barbara Meloche, Martha Pease, Dorothea Schuler, Karen Hands Uhlman, and Lori Zurvalec. Some scarves were left in the church office, and it is unknown who created and donated them. All donations, whether anonymous or not, are gratefully accepted. **Since the inception of the *Share the Warmth of God's Love Scarf* program, 1010 scarves have been created and donated by Knit Wits Too Circle.**

The smaller size scarves, hats and mittens created by KW2, were donated to Poupard Elementary School in Harper Woods for the children who need warm items for recess. The remaining scarves, hats and mittens were donated to Friendship House for their clients. The Friendship House donation occurred on December 22, a day when their food bank distributions occurred. Seeing the clients and understanding their need for food and warm items makes a person feel humbled. Truly, we are so blessed to be able to help our brothers and sisters.

The love, warmth and concern evident at each KW2 meeting defines the core of Christian fellowship. Please consider joining in. Attendance is open, we always have chocolate, rides are available, and all are very welcome! KW2 happily accepts knitted or crocheted donations whether or not you can attend the meetings. May God bless the work we do in His name.

Respectfully submitted by Lori Zurvalet, Knit Wits Too Keeper of the Records