

# WOMEN OF APC

*Stirring one another on toward love and good deeds*

*<sup>24</sup>And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another" Hebrews 10:24-25*

At last month's Mug-n-Muffin, Arden women and girls shared some yummy treats...we oohed over pretty pottery cups and giggled over silly ones (guess which pastoral spouse came bearing a "Preacher's Chick" mug??). With full tummies and grateful hearts, we sat across from each other and considered the challenge to *stir one another on toward love and good deeds...* We discussed ways to serve the body with the limited time our busy schedules allow. We spoke of ways to find the hidden treasures--the spiritual gifts God has provided through ordinary women like us. And we acknowledged the need to not give up meeting together, for worship but also for fellowship, as we seek to encourage one another.

In this newsletter you will find lots of ways to use your gifts to encourage the body of Christ and to encourage one another. You can make a regular commitment to a ministry like Bible study or a one-time commitment to attend a conference or event with your Arden sisters. Looking for ways to serve? Why not bring dinner to a new mama and her family or bring soup and cookies to an older member recovering from surgery or the flu? Would you be willing to make a pound cake or green bean casserole for the bereaved family of an Arden member? What about reading a book together with other women in the twice monthly book club? Can you quilt or sew? You can make a quilt for a cancer patient. Can't sew, but have lovely penmanship? You can write scripture verses on the back of the quilt. Like to plan dinners and parties? Join a team planning a women's ministry event this year. Can you pray? There's a place for you to serve!

We left the Mug-N-Muffin with a challenge to make a positive difference in the church. Consider the words of Pastor Kevin DeYoung (remarks excerpted from a talk given in 2010):

## How to Be a Difference Maker in Your Church

- Find a good local church.
- Get involved.
- Become a member.
- Stay there as long as you can.
- Put away thoughts of a revolution for a while.
- Join the plodding visionaries.
- Go to church this Sunday and worship in Spirit and truth.
- Be patient with your leaders.
- Rejoice when the gospel is faithfully proclaimed.
- Bear with those who hurt you.
- Give people the benefit of the doubt.
- Say 'hi' to the teenager that no one notices.
- Welcome the old ladies with the blue hair and the young men with tattoos.
- Volunteer for the nursery.
- Attend the congregational meeting.
- Bring your fried chicken to the potluck like everybody else.
- Invite a friend.
- Take a new couple out for coffee.
- Give to the Christmas offering.
- Sing like you mean it.
- Be thankful someone vacuumed the carpet for you.
- Enjoy the Sundays that 'click.'
- Pray extra hard on the Sundays that don't.
- And in all of this, do not despise the days and weeks and years of small things (Zechariah 4:8-10).

*Pastor Kevin DeYoung*

## Service and Care Ministries

The service and care committees continue to faithfully serve the APC community. Women with a heart to serve and a desire to minister in the name of the Lord are most welcome. Please contact Nicki Kennedy at 828-335-4804 or Jean-Marie VunCannon.

**Bereavement Committee** - provides a meal for bereaved family of church members

**Hands of Faith** - care for members with cancer and their families

**Hospitality** - coordinates the Easter and Christmas brunches as well receptions for transitioning staff

**Leader Feeders** - prepares dinner each month for the officers during the session and diaconate meeting

**Meals Ministry** - provides meals for church families: births, illness, etc.

**Moms in Prayer** - moms and grandmothers praying for children of all ages

**Prayer Chain** - prays for the needs for church members and friends via email.

Email [apcprayergroup@gmail.com](mailto:apcprayergroup@gmail.com) with a prayer request or to be added to the prayer chain.

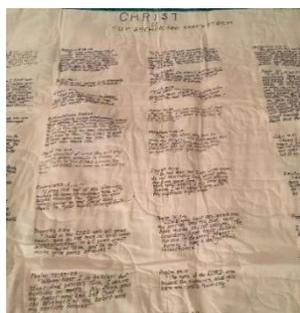
**Prayer for APC Women's Ministry** - prays for women's ministries and leadership

**Sewing Sisters** - meets 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays to work on sewing projects for church and community. All skill levels welcome.

## Supporting Cancer Patients

In the body of Christ at Arden we have the privilege of supporting one another. The Sewing Sisters along with Hands of Faith are two groups that allow us to do just that. While Hands of Faith is a prayer ministry which assists with the needs of our brothers and sisters with cancer and long-term illnesses, the Sewing Sisters make scripture quilts for church members who are undergoing long term chemo treatments. These much-loved quilts have been a blessing to many in our church family and give them much comfort as they literally are able to wrap themselves in God's word.

**The Sewing Sisters** (formerly the Sewing Circle) welcomes all who are interested in making the quilts or who would like to work with the group on other service oriented sewing projects. There is also a specific need for someone to write the scriptures on the back of the quilts. For more information please contact Martha Doty at 684-3472.



**Hands of Faith** also welcomes anyone who would like to be a part of this vital ministry. For more information on this group contact Sue Baker at 684-6656.

*Photos of quilt made for Gay Lynn Fox.*



## The Vision of APC Women's Ministry

APC women's ministry is anchored on the authority of God's Word and exists for the glory of God. Our vision is that the women of APC would embrace and embody God's design for us as worshipers, complementarian life-givers and helpers. We seek to accomplish this through study and application of Scripture, mentoring, serving, showing mercy and compassion, building covenantal community, and exercising spiritual gifts in the home, church, city and world. We are committed to passing on this legacy of Biblical and covenantal womanhood to women of all ages and to future

## Events Happenings This Year

### March 10

Church Spring Cleaning  
8:45 AM -12:30 PM

### April 21

Western Carolina  
Presbytery Ladies Spring  
Luncheon  
Time/Location TBA

### Summer

Children's Ministry  
Terrific Tuesday Bible  
Study

### Fall

Ladies Dinner or Dessert

### October 5-6

PCA Regional Women's  
Conference in  
Chattanooga, TN

### October 26-27

Western Carolina  
Presbytery Fall Retreat  
at Ridgehaven

### Early November

Hospitality Teaching  
and Workshop

### Jan-Feb 2019

Women's Winter Event  
(Mug-n-Muffin was the  
event for 2018)

If you are interested in  
helping to plan any of  
these events, please  
contact Jean-Marie for  
more details.

## Mentoring and Discipleship

### **Moms of Little Ones! Mother's Morning In! NEW!**

Coming soon, we are starting a "mother's morning in." This will be a time for kids to play and moms to enjoy a cup of coffee and some fellowship. We will meet every other week in the mornings at the home of Lori Francis. Stay tuned for more info about dates and times!

### **Titus 2 Small Groups**

Informal Groups of young and not-so young women meeting monthly in homes to share a meal, build relationships, and discuss principles of Biblical womanhood through topical studies.

### **Book Club**

Meets twice monthly at the home of Heather Wright from 7-8:30 PM. Currently reading Redeeming Love (Rivers). Will begin The Hiding Place (Ten Boom) on March 5. Contact Sheila Wright at 828-708-2456 for more specific details.

## Women in the Word

### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

9:30-11:30 AM in the Fellowship Room

Loving childcare provided! Join us as finish up Titus on February 20 and begin 2 Timothy on February 27. Last class is on May 1 followed by a brunch.

### **Evening Ladies Bible Study! NEW!**

Meets on Thursday evenings to watch a video of the Tuesday lesson and discuss together. Join us at the home of Lisa Sheppard beginning March 1 from 7:00-8:30 PM. Email Lori Francis for details and directions: thefrancisfam@gmail.com.

## GALS (Growing and Loving Servants)

GALS stands for Growing and Loving Servants. This includes ALL women in the church 9 years old and up! This past year we have grown to love each other ♥ Now it is time to serve together.

On Saturday, March 10th from 8:45 to 12:30, we will be coming together to spiffy up our church! There are many things that need to be scrubbed, touched up, buffed up and dusted!

Cleaning your own home alone is never something to look forward to but working alongside women of all ages in the church will be a blast! The younger women can learn tips and tricks from the more experienced ones and the more mature women will be continually encouraged by the youth as we divide into teams to tackle this project.

We will enjoy muffins in the morning to energize us with a boost of coffee and juice, then regroup together to enjoy lunch before our departure.

We are looking forward to all we can get done when we all work together to clean God's church. For more details, contact Anne Jensen at 231-2577 for more info. Sign up at the Welcome Table!

Please call Anne Jensen at 828-231-2577 with any questions you may have.