

Report to the Synod of 2022

From: The Provincial Women's Board

Mission, Purpose and Values

The Provincial Women's Board was created by the Southern Province Synod and is responsible to Synod. Its duties are:

- To promote the acquaintance and fellowship of the women of the Province and seek to encourage their growth in Christian character and service.
- To formulate and present a program for the united effort of the Women's Fellowships of the congregations and to enlist their cooperation in carrying it out.
- To lend their assistance to the Provincial Elder's Conference or other Boards of the Province whenever called upon towards the accomplishment of the work assigned to them.
- To further the cause of Christ and the Kingdom among the women of our Southern Province.

The PWB is financially supported by the Women of the Moravian Church in America- Southern Province.

Responsibilities

We support financially and/or spiritually:

- Board of Cooperative Ministries
- Board of World Mission
- Church Women United
- Elizabeth Norfleet Miller Endowment Fund
- Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp
- Minister's Emergency Fund
- Pfohl Endowment Fund
- Salemtowne
- Seminary Student Emergency Fund
- Sunnyside Ministries
- Tamra Wright Thomas Spiritual Life Retreat Scholarship Fund
- Unity Women's Desk
- Yokefellow Prison Chaplaincy

Services we provide:

- Communicate with Moravian female minister and Women's Fellowships.

- Present portable communion set to newly ordained Southern Province ministers.
- Publish quarterly newsletter where fellowships are encouraged to share experiences.
- Provide Bible and Mission Study Books.

Fellowship opportunities:

- Moravian Women's Conference
- Spiritual Life Retreat
- Fall Celebration
- Lenten Days of Prayer

Summary of Activities

The PWB has been able to continue financial support and assistance through the past 4 years. We have sent funds to Laurel Ridge Moravian Camp, the BCM, the Board of World Mission, and the Minister's Emergency Fund. We did have to cut back on the amounts we were able to give as our funds are less than we have had in past years. This is a result of Women's Fellowships also having less funds available due to Covid.

We had to cancel the Spiritual Life Retreat in 2020. In 2021 we had the retreat at Laurel Ridge, but we also made it available virtually. This year the retreat will be held in September.

We were able to continue the Fall Celebration for 2020 and 2021. We did a virtual program both years from Friedberg Moravian.

The Days of Prayer were canceled in 2020, but were held virtually in 2021. Churches who were unable to do a program allowed other churches to host.

The Interprovincial Women's Board meets in the Fall of every year. Because of Covid, we met at Laurel Ridge in 2020. We were able to return to our regular meeting place in West Virginia in 2021. Unfortunately, the Conference Committee decided to cancel the next Women's Conference scheduled for 2023. The conference returns to the South and will be held in the summer of 2025.

We were able to continue support to our ministers. The Pfohl Fund is always available to assist with continuing education. We send money to the Seminary Students at Christmas, and we sometimes send Moravian cookies as well. We did not host the female ministers at a luncheon in the Fall in 2020, but we made a donation to Laurel Ridge in their honor. We did have a luncheon in November of 2021 at Bethania Moravian.

We have in past years sponsored a Valentine's Tea for the residents of Salemtowne. Because of Covid, we have sent Moravian cookies to Salemtowne where they have been distributed to the residents during the pandemic.

We have continued with our Prison Ministry by providing cakes for many years, but switching to individually wrapped treats because of Covid. Several churches in the Province sponsor this.

We were very glad to be able to continue our work during the pandemic by meeting outside or on ZOOM. We are thankful for technology that has allowed us to continue with the programs we love to provide. Most of all, we are grateful to the churches and the members who helped us adapt and continue to function.

Future Direction and Opportunities

It is the goal of this board to find ways to reach more women and get them involved in more of our programming. We hope to develop programs that will interest all women, and we will make the effort to appeal to women of all ages in our Moravian Churches.

