



American Baptist  
**Women's**  
MINISTRIES

# The Tellhergram

Fall Issue 2020

An American Baptist Women's Ministries of Ohio

Publication



**PRESIDENT - Janet Southerland**

**WOW!** That about sums up the last 6 months!

Thankfully, I know and I believe that God is in charge! He knows the number of hairs on my head and your head too. (Matthew 10:30) Back up a verse and read about God's care for the sparrows, another reassurance of His care for us.

There cannot be too many thanks given for the time I have spent with Ohio AB Women. It has been a privilege to help, learn, grow and lead with all of you. Like I told one of my sons the other day "You've been expensive and somewhat annoying at times, but I am so glad you are a part of my life!" Like my balanced love for my son – I feel the same way about ABW/OH!

In review – we have brought fellowship to many women in our immediate circle. That fellowship was demonstrated through prayer, Bible study, cards, phone conversations and sometimes just being present. The next ring in our circle has shown our care for our neighborhoods. That would include: time volunteered, blankets and quilts made, dinners made and delivered, babysitting, mowing the neighbor's lawn, talking over the fence, sharing coffee on the back porch and inviting them into our homes, churches and activities to see, learn and hear about Jesus. But wait – there's more – we have moved beyond our neighborhoods to areas around Ohio that are doing ministry but need our resources to help make that happen. Heart Reach Neighborhood Ministries, Dayton Christian Center, our church camps, Race Track Ministries have benefited from our resources. I can't tell you how many times I have had to explain in my own church (you have in yours also) that it is beneficial for us to help with needs beyond our own back door. The children we help in these

ministries could be our next pastor, governor, doctor or neighbor...you get the picture (Acts 1:8). The outer ring of our fellowship goes all the way around the world. We've bought vans in Oklahoma, helped build hospitals in Africa and India. There have been water wells drilled in Haiti. Eye clinics supported in Haiti. Anywhere there are impoverished or marginalized souls our resources have been sent. Our chief resource that we send is our missionaries! They bring health and education to their mission field location. Through those gifts, they bring the greatest gift – the love of Jesus.

All of this sums up our reason for being AB Women. We want to lift up all lives, especially women and through that – share Jesus! So, again, thank you. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this legacy and ministry. My prayer is for all of you to carry on the ministry of ABW/OH.

“24 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— 25 to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.” (Jude verse 24)

Janet Southerland

Past President

ABW/OH

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**SECRETARY - Susan Stotts**

Hello Ladies,

On August 29, we had the annual meeting that we usually have at our June conference. It was a virtual meeting through Zoom and was a good meeting with ten associations represented. Tasha Johnson from Dayton Christian Center was with us and was happy to know that we were sending \$12,000 from State Project for their bus. Peter and Sarah McCurdy spoke to us and shared more about the Masters in Theological Studies program that Peter works in, and how it has impacted the students. Providing scholarships for two students to complete their two-year degree is our 2020-21 State Project. The McCurdys are in the states right now, and Peter has had surgery on his hips.

He's recovering nicely. Kit Ripley has been home since March, when she came to get some needed medicine. Thailand closed its borders due to COVID, and she can't get back. She's hoping to return in November. In the meantime, she is working on translating the theological book, "The Casket's Empty" into Thai. It will be published in Thailand and made available to pastors, missionaries and Christian leaders throughout the country.

The business conducted included the election of officers. Flo Smith-Heizer was elected for Scholarship Chair, Sandra Banks for Coordinator of Personal Development, Janet Wion and Barb Rockwell as Co-Coordinators of Retreat, Susan Nicholson as Coordinator of Communication/TellHerGram, and Aline Davis and Susan Stotts as Co-Coordinators of Conference. The President's position is still open. If you have a suggestion, we would be glad to hear it. Of course, there were Chairman reports, which I'm sure you will see in this newsletter. We heard from three of our National ABW leaders, two who are from Ohio. And, we said goodbye to our President, Janet Southerland. Her husband's job has taken them to South Carolina. Janet shared from "Turtle on a Fence Post", by Charles Swindoll, and Isaiah 51:1-2. She expressed the gratitude she felt having been placed on the fence post of ABW. The newly elected officers were installed by outgoing Coordinator of Personal Development, Judy Douglas. Thank you, Judy, for your three years of dedicated service.

**Dates to remember:**

November 2 – Baptist Women's Day of Prayer

March 5, 2021 - World Day of Prayer

June 18-19, 2021 – ABW/Ohio Conference

September 17-18, 2021 Spiritual Growth Retreat

Whew, I think that's everything. Remember, if you need anything, please contact me.

Blessings,

Susan Stotts

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**COORDINATOR OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – Sandra Banks**

I am so blessed to have this opportunity to be the new Coordinator of Personal Development. I am a member of the Morning Star Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio. In my church I work with the missions, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. I'm a retired R.N., mother of three and proud grandmother of five.

The medical professionals encourage us to get a physical check-up at least once a year, regular exercise and to eat a proper diet. How many times have you started an exercise program or started a new diet without success? Most success in health and eating

changes are obtained by implementing a realistic plan. By sticking to your plan, you can see progress in your weight loss and well-being.

It's no different with our spiritual lives. When was the last time you had a spiritual check-up or examination? How's your hearing? Do you listen and incline your ears to God's word? (Prov.4:20.) Listen carefully to learn and apply God's word. If you don't listen and apply God's word, you can easily be deceived and drift into sin. The tongue can build others up or tear them down. It needs to be controlled. (James 3:1-12.) The feet, are you walking with God? To walk with God you must trust Him, obey Him, walk in the same direction He walks and stay in step with Him. Keep your eyes upon the Lord. Read the word of God and don't let it depart from you. Let the eyes be fixed on God and not wandering, they might be diverted from God. Next our heart, we must keep our heart from being destroyed by sin. Keep out bad thoughts. We must keep our hearts with more care than anything else. Out of a heart well-kept come all the things that glorify God.

So, how did you do? Are you spiritually fit?



### **CHAIRWOMAN OF CARE AND SHARE - Tammy Hubb**

Hello everyone! This has been an unusual year so far. But the one thing that we know is that GOD is in CONTROL! We only need to TRUST and OBEY!

Thank you all for the donations. We were able to give Dayton Christian Center \$12,000.00 towards the bus. We heard from Tasha that they have been able to get it!!! Again, thank you so much.

The State Project for 2020-2021 is for International Ministries. We want to provide scholarship money for two students in the Master of Theological Studies in Latino/a Ministries through Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University. Peter McCurdy introduced this project to us and is one of the instructors. He started working with the program while in Costa Rica and the scholarships will follow him to students in Mexico City. Our goal is \$13,000. Each Association should have received information on this as well as the song that Susan Stotts put together, "Training Up New Leaders" to the tune of "Onward Christian Soldiers".

Care and Share is pretty much the same as before. Gift cards or checks are always helpful since it is hard to get things to the different places. Leslie at the Office in Granville will accept items at the Office and Pastor Vincent Harris has delivered some of the items where needed.

Hope to see everyone in person soon. Thanks again for all you do to help those in need.

Tammy Hubb  
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### **CHAIRWOMAN OF WHITE CROSS - Patsy Rice**

**Editor's Note:** There is no report from Patsy this issue as she recently had heart valve replacement surgery. Please be in prayer for her recovery.

You should have by now received your White Cross requests. Even though you may not be meeting in person, please try to meet your requests. If your group is unable to do so, please let your association White Cross chair or Patsy know so that someone else may be able to help.

### **CHAIRMAN OF SCHOLARSHIP – Florence Smith-Heizer**

"After Jesus had finished instruction his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee" Matt. 11:1

Ladies,

This pandemic has our world turned upside down. And it is even harder for those we are sending into colleges and universities to do their studies. Please remember your scholarship students. Send them messages of encouragement and strength. Let them know that we are all praying for them. Send them little gifts of encouragement, such as stamps, note stationary, gift baskets for study times, gift cards for gas and lodging while they are attending, hand cream, sanitizers, etc. that can travel in a purse or brief case or car, etc. Don't forget their SPECIAL DATES (birthdays and anniversaries, etc.)

Also, with us not having face-to-face conferences this year, please make donations to the American Baptist Women's Ministry Scholarship Fund during this time. Send them to Becky Winsley designated so. This will help our Scholarship Fund to continue to help other student applicants in the future.

Contact them and get on their schedules to speak at your meetings or on Zoom or Go-To-Meeting. I am sure they would love to do that if scheduled.

Above all keep them in your prayers and on your churches' prayer lists!

**American Baptist Women's Ministries of Ohio**  
**Scholarship Students for 2020-21**

**2020-21 Scholarship Student for Clinton, Columbus, Dayton, Lawrence, Miami, and Western Associations. This includes all American Baptist Churches in these areas.**

Kit Ripley

Missionary to Chiang Mai

Birthday November 10

e-mail: kitripley@pobox.com

Address:

USA: 5991 Kenridge Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Thai: TBMF P.O. Box 29  
Chiang Mai 50000  
Thailand



**2020-21 Scholarship Student for Cambridge, Mahoning Valley, Marietta, Rio Grande, Zanesville, and Zoar Associations. This includes all American Baptist Churches in these areas.**

Richard A. Eaton (Wife: Julie)

Birthday March 27

Julie's Birthday April 28

Wedding Anniversary February 23

e-mail: rickeaton7@gmail.com

Address: 906 20<sup>th</sup> St.  
Vienna, WV 26105



**2020-21 Scholarship Student for Akron, Cleveland, Marion, Mohican, North Central, Northeast Ohio, and Toledo Associations. This includes all American Baptist Churches in these areas.**

Susan Nicholson

Birthday July 2

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Thanks for your help and support.

God Bless,

Flo Smith-Heizer

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### **FROM THE EDITOR**

I wish to apologize for the lateness of this issue. My computer crashed this summer and I had to start from scratch. If you know of anyone who normally gets the TellHerGram and did not, please have them contact me.

Susan Nicholson

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