

# Women's Life



November 2005

Remembering with thanksgiving  
Autumn stirs so many things in me. Does it in you? I ooh and aaah over every display of colorful foliage, choose favorite recipes for baking with apples, pumpkin, and spices, snuggle into wool sweaters, and breathe deeply of campfires that send sparks flying toward the darkening skies. For the past three years, I have also spent a few days in New England with Lois,

As the pastor's wife at my home church when I was a teenager, Lois played a very pivotal role in my growth as a Christian. She taught me to sing in the junior choir, inspired me to memorize 200 verses of Scripture while I spent a year in the hospital, wrote me my first letter when I went off to college, sang at my wedding, and exchanged Christmas letters for more than 35 years. Other than those letters, however, we saw each other very infrequently. In 2003, we met at a college alumni weekend and began to consider getting together annually. We live less than 6 hours away from each other. I could, armed with maps, written directions, and nerves of steel, drive around NYC to Connecticut and visit for a few days.

While together, we have ventured on day trips to see Mark Twain's estate and Harriet Beecher Stowe's home in Hartford, and then Washington Irving's homestead on the Hudson River's banks. As two former English majors, we have reveled in the personal stories the guides told of these American authors. Tucked into our days we have enjoyed quiet lunches and wonderful times of prayer and music.

One other day's side trip usually takes us the 100-mile jaunt back to the tiny town where I grew up and where she and Ron ministered.. In the past three years, we have visited Harriet, a church member whose body may be 92, but whose mind is about 35! We also prayed with Alice

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last year as she suffered with ovarian cancer; this year we visited her grave. This year I reconnected with two women who were in my youth group over 40 years ago. One was betrayed by her husband of 38 years as he ran off with her widowed Christian friend. The other woman, an endoscopy nurse, had just received the news that she has colon cancer. Yet the years melted away; we prayed, hugged and shared each other's burdens. How does that happen apart from the love of Jesus Christ being the bond?

As Thanksgiving visits your home and heart this year, why not remember the people who had a part in your Christian growth? Write, email, visit, or call them. Pray, sing, hug, or in some way let them know that you thank God for His having brought them into your life. You will see some of the amazing ways the Lord has "grown" you through the people who have shown you Christ. Then honor the Lord and bless that person; your Thanksgiving will be richer for it.

*Flo Wolfe*



## Looking for a way to give back to Women's Ministries?

Helpers needed:

Bereavement Ministry  
Bible studies  
Coffee Fellowship  
Fall Ministry Fair  
Hospitality  
Retreat for all EP Churches  
(Mar. 31–Apr. 2, 2006)  
Christmas Brunch  
Women's Sunday School Class  
(summer quarter only)

Leaders or co-leaders needed:

Appreciation desserts  
Women's Ministry volunteers (Sept. and March)  
Bible study  
children's program  
A Faith That Works (once-a-month Bible study for women who work outside the home)  
Home Management Seminars (January and July)  
Moms of College Kids (meets one Saturday morning a month)  
Retreat (November 3-5, 2006)  
Summer Desserts  
Spring Tea

## *This month in Women's Ministry*

**2 Peter and Jude Bible Study:** each Thursday, 7:30 – 9:00PM

**Acts Bible Study:** each Tuesday morning, 9:30 - 11:00AM

**Ebenezer 1:** two groups meet each Tuesday, 9:30AM and 7:00PM  
in the Ministry Center.

**Coffee Fellowship:** each Sunday, between the morning services

**Merry Widows:** November 5

**MOPS:** November 16

**MOPS Steering Committee:** November 30

**Women's Life:** December's deadline is November 15. Email articles  
under 500 words to Micki (muffnme@comcast.net).

**Ebenezer 3:** second meeting, November 16 10:00AM, in the Parlor  
(third meeting, December 14)

**Single Moms' Ministry:** November 8 and 22 6:45PM. Childcare  
available

**Boundaries in Dating:** November 1, 15, 29 at 6:45PM. Childcare  
available

**Lamplight 2005:** PresWic conference for our Chesapeake  
Presbytery will meet from 8:30-3:30PM Saturday, November  
12 at Timonium Presbyterian Church. Cost is \$20.00

**A Faith That Works:** will not meet in November and December,  
but will resume on January 18, 2006

**Moms of College Kids:** November 19 from 9-10AM

**Scrapbooking Daze:** November 19 from 9AM–6PM in the Ministry  
Center.

## **Looking to the future**

**Ladies Christmas Brunch** will be on December 3, 2005

**Home Management Seminar** will be on January 7, 2006



Lamplight 2005

Nov. 12 8:30AM-3:30PM

Timonium PCA Church

Join the sisters of your Presbytery for a day of recharging and refreshment. Our theme is *Focusing Your Vision: Christian World and Life View*. Contact Flo Wolfe for more information.

Special Days in  
November

It's Child Safety and  
Protection Month

It's Peanut Butter lovers  
Month

This month in history

Nov. 14, 1889: Reporter Nellie Bly set out from New York to beat the record of Jules Verne's imaginary hero Phileas Fogg, who traveled around the world in 80 days. She returned 72 days later to a tumultuous welcome in New York.

The first medical  
school for women  
opened in Boston: Nov. 1, 1848

Giant Pandas are discovered in  
China: Nov 9, 1927

Pencil invented: Nov. 19, 1895

## M&Ms Book Club: 2006 Book Selections

January/February: *Lost Women of the Bible*, by Carolyn Custis James.

Carolyn Custis James takes a fresh look at the women in the Bible, recovering dimensions of their lives that have been overlooked, in order that their stories may encourage us in our 21<sup>st</sup> Century walk of faith. (Be sure to sign up for the all-EP churches women's retreat where Carolyn Custis James will speak.)

March/April: *Miracle of Miracles*, by Mina Nevisa, with Jim Croft.

Iranian-born, and Muslim-raised, Mina Nevisa was miraculously converted to Christianity in the 1980s. This is her story of transformation and deliverance. An addendum explains key concepts of Islam.

May/June: *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart.

This book, widely used in Christian colleges and seminaries, teaches basic principles of biblical interpretation. Written in an easy-to-understand style, the authors provide us ordinary Christians, not just the scholars, with tools that help us read, believe, and obey the Bible.

July/August: *At Home in Mitford*, by Jan Karon.

Spend some time in the gentle fictional world of Jan Karon's Mitford, where the Gospel is lived out in the day-to-day lives of a small southern community. This wildly successful series has touched the hearts of millions, including author Lauren Winner, who attributes the Mitford series with being part of how God brought her from Orthodox Judaism to Christian faith.

September/October: *Lest Innocent Blood be Shed*, by Philip Hallie.

This is the true story of how the villagers of Le Chambon, an isolated Huguenot village in southern France, managed under the teaching and leadership of their Protestant pastors, to rescue thousands of Jews escaping from Hitler's persecutions.

November/December: *Prayer: A Holy Occupation*, by Oswald Chambers.

Most readers are familiar with Chambers' *My Utmost for His Highest*, but in this volume, all of his reflections on prayer have been collected for our edification. In the introduction Chambers writes, "We use prayer as a last resort; Jesus wants it to be our first line of defense." This book will challenge all of us who wish to learn how to make prayer our "first line of defense."

## *F*ats and things

### Thanksgiving Cooking

10 Steps to a relaxing Thanksgiving

[www.onlineorganizing.com/NewslettersArticle.asp?newsletter=go&article=384](http://www.onlineorganizing.com/NewslettersArticle.asp?newsletter=go&article=384)

Gravy Secrets:

[www.holidays.net/thanksgiving/recipes/gravy2000-1.htm](http://www.holidays.net/thanksgiving/recipes/gravy2000-1.htm)

Recipes and tips

[www.recipelink.com/thanksgiving.html](http://www.recipelink.com/thanksgiving.html)

[www.worldfamousrecipes.com/thanksgiving-recipes.html](http://www.worldfamousrecipes.com/thanksgiving-recipes.html)

<http://recipes.chef2chef.net/>

(then “search” for Thanksgiving)

### Pink Salad

1 can of cherry pie filling

1 can (drained) of pineapple chunks

1 large bag of pecans (chopped)

1 large container of Cool-Whip

1 can of sweetened condensed milk

Mix all ingredients together (in large bowl) and serve chilled as a dessert.

You can find this recipe and more at [www.holidays.net](http://www.holidays.net)

## Did you know ...

In the 1930s, Sylvan Goldman, credited as the inventor of the shopping cart, had to hire people to push the carts around his market until customers got comfortable enough to try them.

The first instant cake mix was introduced in 1931, but 20 years later women were still baking from scratch. The egg theory—leaving out the powdered egg so that women would feel a sense of ownership as they cracked eggs—was credited with the success of mixes.

*(U.S. News and World Report, Aug. 19-22, 2005)*

## *Living it*

We've been told that we can have it all. Maybe we can, but is everything we *can* have actually good for us? We have to make choices. We're also told that the Bible gives us all we need "for life and godliness." But how does it help us make all those choices we face? Let's see how it works with this passage ...

*... let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.* (Hebrews 10:24-25)

When I look at the passage, I see:

1. consider (think about)  
    how to spur one another (encourage)
2. don't give up (others translate it "neglect") meeting together  
    that has become a habit, instead encourage each other

Encouraging each other is in both parts—so it's important. It also says that both the "spur one another" and the "don't give up" are needed for that encouraging to happen. We need to think about it and meet together to do it.

One interesting thing I see is that not meeting together can become a habit. Have you ever noticed that once you decide to do something else one Sunday morning, it's easier to do something else the next Sunday? And have you ever noticed how much harder (and grayer) the weeks are?

How has this passage affected my choices? When our daughter was interested in an activity, we would find out the schedule (if it was a sport, we looked at the game schedule). We chose not to get involved in things that took us away from Sunday worship. Once we chose to stop an activity because several weeks in a row the group returned about 1:00AM Sunday morning—affecting the Sunday "meeting together" of all three of us.

Do you have a choice facing you? Is this one of the passages that provide what you need for "life and godliness"?

*Micki Parkinson*



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## ***Behind the Scenes of Women's Life***

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