

The Pillar

DVPCA WOMEN IN THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Standing firm in the strength of His might

New WIC focus for 2020-2021

It Matters That We Stand!

This Fall we will be turning our attention to the book of Ephesians. Our theme verses come from chapter 6:10-12 "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.". New studies begin in **October**. Books will be available at Circle Bible studies for \$10.

Our Newsletter now has a name! "The Pillar". Pillar means: **functional, supportive, often beautifully carved; gives stability and beauty to a structure**. When making a pillar, it is often a tedious, tender, transforming process...what a picture of what we as women are called to be within Christ's Church. This imagery comes from Psalm 144:12.



Missionary
Focus

Heath
McLaughen-
RUF, VA Tech

Alex & Suzanne
Sarran- Church
planting Lyon,
France

Blue Ridge
Presbytery-
Church Planting

Mission to North
America

Wic coordinator: Debbie Kelley

Sister group coordinator: Susannah
Whitener

Circle Bible study group: Sharon Pratt

Christian Growth: Kim Davis

Secretary: Sunshine Cooper

Treasurer: Pam Davis

Historian: Pat Guthrie

Outreach & Evangelism: Laura Gill

Mentoring: Sarah Reid

Events: Leighann Meek

Compassion Corps: Debbie Kelley

First Response Freezer Meals: Martha
Biggar

Ministry to congregation: Josie
Mathews

**Several sister groups now have
new leaders for this year. Be on the
lookout for who your new group
leader is!

*Leadership training Sept. 18-19

*Leadership Retreat @ Claytor
Lake Oct. 9-11



Testimony Corner: *Mary Alice Watson*

Psalms 9:9-10 "The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you."

Psalms 116:5-6 "The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearted; when I was in great need, He saved me."

Growing up I had always attended church with my family. I attended Sunday school, Bible school, and participated in the Christmas play

every year. I attended our family's church up until I became a young adult and turned that magic number "21". I fell for it like most young adults, "I don't need to go to church, I am doing what I am supposed to do...college and working part time." I went several years without attending church regularly because I was "too busy". As time went by I did my own thing and either worked full time or went to school. I then decided I was ready to move out on my own, and I did. My mom had started attending DVPCA with some good friends Andy and Jeanine Hamm. She talked about being "spiritually fed" at this church and she invited me to come with her one Sunday. After hearing Preston Sartelle preach I knew what she was talking about. I started attending on a regular basis with Mom each Sunday. I became a member and have been attending ever since.

Several years ago I went through an "unplanned" life changing experience. It was during this time I knew that God was in my heart and he told me through scripture I could make it through this painful experience. I am so grateful for my church family that was there for support during this time. Roland gave me Scripture to read and focus on through this difficult time in my life. I read these passages over and over and focused on God's word to get me through each day. And it worked! I have been able to move on with my life as a much happier person and raise two healthy daughters. God is good and His word is so true. I have learned that if things don't go "as planned" in my life, that I can always turn to His word and see the light. God is a beacon and His words are so comforting in any situation, happy or sad. I have replaced a popular book quote with, "Oh the things God will do, He is working in you!"