

Wives of Elders



WE (Wives of Elders) is a new ministry initiative under CDM to connect, serve, and strengthen PCA ruling and teaching elders' wives. WE serves as a relational hub, gathering women together in fellowship and discipling them with resources that will better equip them to navigate their unique roles. As we seek to strengthen ministry wives, it is our prayer that marriages will be strengthened and that, in turn, the church will be built up.

Thank you for partnering with us to invest in the lives of ministry wives! We are better together.

How might you thank and encourage the elders' wives at your church?

Consider Hosting

- A Sunday morning "ministry moment"
- A special appreciation luncheon
- An evening dinner
- A special tea time
- Setting aside time for a meaningful moment at Bible study
- Or even throwing a "Thank You Party"



WIVES OF ELDERS
CONNECTING, SERVING, STRENGTHENING



Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

Proverbs 3:27

A Unique Role

Elders' wives serve and sacrifice for the sake of Christ's church. Wouldn't it be fun to celebrate these often unsung heroes in your congregation?

Join us in letting these women know that their faithfulness is not overlooked.

If hosting a gathering feels out of your comfort zone, take a deep breath. We have compiled ideas to help you get started.



Planning Packet Includes

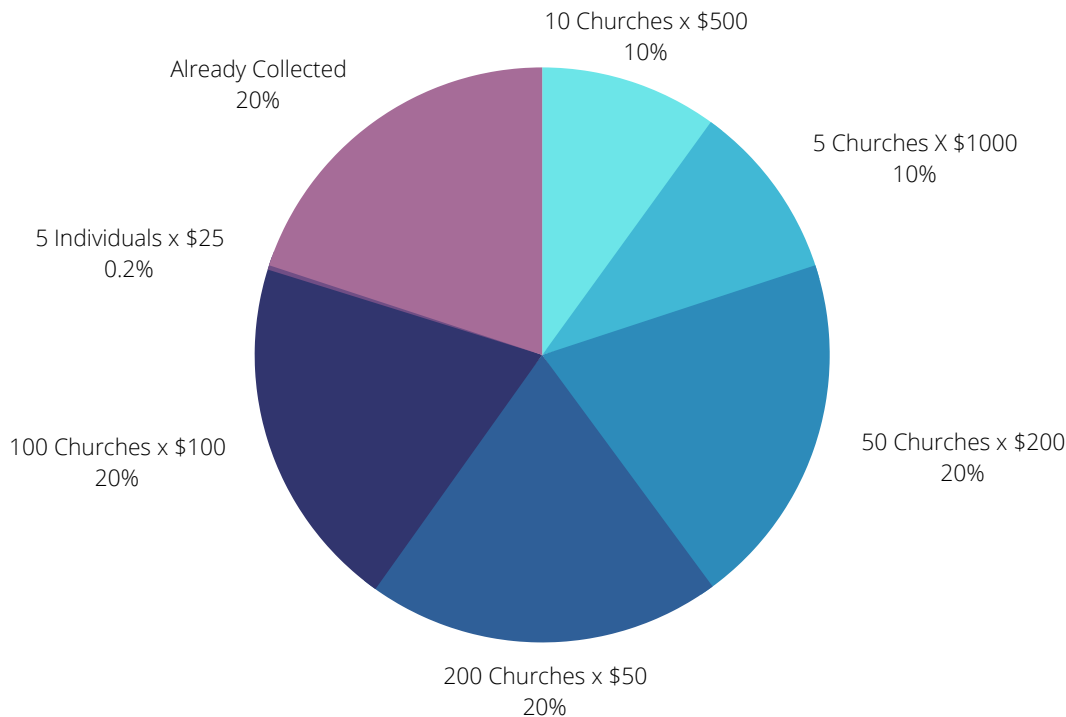
- An Icebreaker Activity
- Scripture Encouragements
- Prayer Prompts
- Suggestions to help you share your appreciation
- Information about this year's Love Gift Legacy and how you can give in honor of your elders' wives

Women's Ministry Love Gift Legacy



Seeking to leave a legacy of relationships and resources to prayerfully strengthen the Church for the next generation.

\$50,000 Goal



Since the beginning of the PCA, the annual Women's Ministry Love Gift has been used by God to strengthen our denomination. Your gifts of \$1.8 million over the last twenty years have helped us partner with PCA Committees and Agencies. We appreciate the many ways you and your churches have partnered with us to promote greater connectionism and seek to leave a life-giving legacy.

Please prayerfully donate in honor of the elders' wives in your lives. We suggest a donation of \$25 per ministry wife at your church. Your gift towards the goal of \$50,000 will enable us to continue to serve and support women *over the next five years!* WE plans to host General Assembly Seminars, monthly cohorts, discipleship opportunities, a National Connection Team and we are prayerfully hoping to host a conference for the wives of elders in the PCA!

Beside and Behind

Thank you for planning to show appreciation to elders' wives in your congregation! We have put together this packet to help you prayerfully and purposefully thank each woman serving our churches alongside their husband.

Our prayer for the women that you recognize is that they would know your love and support. We pray this would be the beginning of God's work to lay a strong foundation of care and encouragement among you. We hope that she would receive your kindness and prayer with great joy. And as you let her know that she is seen and valued by you, we pray that she would be reminded that the Lord always sees her and loves her.

Our prayer for you is that you would be able to express your thankfulness to the women who serve in this unique role among you. We hope this resource helps you make time to thank those who invest intentionally each week without many realizing the love they are pouring out.

We pray that your love for one another would grow as you spend this time together and reflect on how God has worked in your church family through the gifts and graces of your elders' wives. Each is unique!

We pray that this will be just the beginning of a tradition of recognizing the women who serve the church faithfully beside their husbands and often behind the scenes.

Icebreaker

Gather the guests and give everyone a paper to complete before you read the correct answers. You may want to bring extra writing utensils. We want this to be a time to enjoy one another and foster connection. After a few minutes, warn everyone that you are about to read the correct answers so wrap up their guesses. Have fun and listen to the conversations that start up!

Note: The activity is on next page with answers upside down on this page.

Scripture Encouragement

Your pastor's wife loves her church and loves her husband, but some days the unique aspects of her role may leave her feeling weary and isolated. Like any other woman in the pew, she may need encouragement, support, practical help, community and sincere prayer. Please commit to praying for your elders' wives regularly. We have included some prayer prompts for you to use.

Activity suggestion, give your guests writing utensils and pass out the prayer cards for guests to begin to reflect on one way that they will pray for the elders' wives at your church. Take time to pray together.

Note: It's best to print these onto cardstock paper so that they can endure for the years to come!

Personalized Appreciation

Pass out cards for guests to write a note of appreciation. Give your guests writing utensils and have them jot down a special memory shared with an elders' wife or thoughts of gratitude. You may ask if any guest would like to share aloud, or you may collect the cards in a basket for the women.

One other option would be have each guest tie their card to a flower and then collect a bouquet with all of the flowers at the end of the sharing time. Just have a vase ready for the elders' wives to take home!

Join us online and share a tribute to an elder's wife who has impacted your life. We would love for you to give us permission to share your words of honor on social media.
women.pcacdm.org/we

Old Wives' Tales

ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY

GUESS WHETHER THESE OLD WIVES' TALES ARE TRUE OR FALSE

	<i>true</i>	<i>false</i>
1. Chicken soup makes you better.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Chewing gum stays in your stomach for seven years.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. If you cross your eyes, they may get stuck.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. After eating, wait one hour before swimming.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Eating a lot of carrots will turn your skin orange.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The moon causes strange behavior.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Being cold will give you a cold.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. If you pull out one grey hair, two more will grow in its place.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:9-10

And this is the testimony of John,
when the Jews sent priests and
Levites from Jerusalem to ask him,
“Who are you?”
He confessed, and did not deny,
but confessed,
“I am not the Christ.”
John 1:19-20

Pray that she will be freed to love and serve
in the strength of the Lord, knowing that
the power to save comes from the Him.

You make known to me the
path of life;
in your presence there is
fullness of joy;
at your right hand are
pleasures forevermore.
Psalm 16:11

Pray for your elders' wives to glorify God
and enjoy fellowship with Him.

"Your testimonies are my
delight; they are my
counselors."

Psalm 119:24

Pray that they will serve the Lord with
gladness and delight in God's Word.

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask
God, who gives generously to all without
reproach, and it will be given him."
James 1:5

Pray that your ministry wives will grow in
wisdom and rely upon the Lord.

Ministry moment:

Ask the elders' wives in your congregation to share about
how they have learned to love the Bride of Christ.

(you may want to let them know about the question in advance)