

## **2014 Outstanding Older Adult Award**

The Presbytery of West Virginia Older Adult Ministry Task Force asked our church sessions to submit nominations of an outstanding senior adult for the 2014 Outstanding Older Adult Award that recognizes mature, service-minded and Christian modeling of faith.

This year's nominees and their families were honored at the Presbytery's May 3rd Stated Meeting at the Larry Joe Harless Community Center in Gilbert. **The winner was Jean White from Frankford Presbyterian Church in Frankford, West Virginia.**

“At 80 years young, Jean, in addition to being a lifelong member of Frankford and an avid church attendee, still participates actively in the life of the church. Jean contributes her gifts and talents, almost daily to every aspect of the church community. Whether she is providing homemade bread and grape juice for Communion, working tirelessly at the churches annual Pancake Supper or providing refreshments for the meetings of the Presbyterian Women, Jean goes about her tasks in an unassuming manner.

Jean diligently oversees the Memorial Fund and is known for her promptness when it comes to sending out thank-you letters to those who donate. She has served on the Nominating Committee and is always willing to help when called upon, even when her services are requested in the Frankford community. She has sewn clothes for needy children and helped teachers at the Frankford Elementary School by attending to children who have special needs.

One cannot look at the exterior of the church without being reminded of Jean. Her creative gardening skills have brought beauty, color and life to the church landscape. Her donation of land which facilitated the expansion of the church parking lot is a lasting reminder of her generosity.

Jean has the unique ability to recognize what needs to be done and the willingness to take on these tasks without fanfare or the need for recognition or praise from others. In our modern “look at me generation,” Jean exemplifies the spirit of humble, selfless and unfaltering service to others. She embraces her commitment to the church family with a passion that is inspiring to each and every generation of our Congregation.”

Congratulations to all of this year’s nominees—you are all winners in God’s eyes! Thanks go to each church and their sessions for the following nominations:

- Ruth Allen, Bridgeport Presbyterian Church, Bridgeport
- Selma Anderson, First Presbyterian Church Williamstown
- Dave Astle-Trinity Presbyterian Church, Shady Springs
- Diane Brown-First Presbyterian Church, Welch
- Paul Corbitt, Waverly-Bethel Presbyterian Church, Williamstown
- Peggy Dorsey, Mt. Hope Presbyterian Church, Mt Hope
- Helen Gibbins, Bates Memorial Presbyterian Church, Huntington
- William Howard Hensley Jr, Teays Valley Presbyterian Church, Teays Valley

- Charles M. “Rab” Snider, Fleming Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fairmont
- Maysel Rawson, Elk Hills Presbyterian Church, Charleston
- Irene Roope, Anderson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Welch
- James Sothen, South Hills Presbyterian Church, Charleston

The OAM Task Force members felt all were qualified – even over qualified! And it was very difficult to center on one person, from the amazing report of the walks in faith over many, many years. Their lives will be inspirations to us all to never retire from listening for God’s whispers in response to the call “Here I am Lord, send me.”

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