

# pivotnow

THE PIVOT MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

## Caring with Cupcakes

By Sarah Griffenhagen and Susan David

Pivot Plus, Pivot Ministry’s alumnae enrichment group, met for its fourth event on October 15 at Ardmore Baptist Church. The goals were for our graduates to give back to others, to practice a skill, and to learn about Trellis Supportive Care and hospice care in general. Those goals came together in a joy-filled event involving cupcakes.

Nine graduates attended, and we all had so much fun, with an abundance of smiles from beginning to end. Professional baker Wyomie Watson, owner of RubyG’s Buttercreme Sensations on Peters Creek Parkway, began the event with her Christian testimony, including how her family had used Trellis services. The graduates stirred and mixed cupcake batter while Wyomie walked around encouraging each of them.

When the cupcakes were in the oven, we gathered to hear from Trellis representative, Angela Nicholson. She gave us information on the types of care offered and other services available, like grief counseling. We learned that one does not have to have insurance to be a patient of hospice and that hospice is not a bad word! We even said it to each other three times. Angela shared from her personal



Wyomie Watson, of RubyG’s Buttercreme Sensations, shared her testimony, recipes, and baking tips with the graduates.

experience using hospice for her own Dad. She remarked that using hospice allowed her to be a daughter, and not a caregiver. Everyone was attentive and several asked questions.

Once the cupcakes were done, it was time to decorate! Wyomie showed us how to use plastic baggies filled with icing to decorate the cupcakes, which yielded lovely writing, borders and rosettes on the cupcakes. We decorated 101 cupcakes for Trellis, and each graduate had cupcakes to take home.

Many thanks to our volunteers: Susan David for securing our speakers and planning the meeting; Sarah Griffenhagen and Kim McDermott for calling and inviting each graduate to our event; Joyce Jolley and Susan Riddle for decorating the room, gathering items needed for the cupcakes, for our “professional cooking class” set-up, and for preparing goodie bags. Wyomie donated manual can openers among other things,

Angela Nicholson, center, of Trellis Supportive Care, shared information with the graduates about hospice care.



Pivot graduates mixed, baked, and personally decorated over 100 cupcakes at the recent event.

and Angela brought each graduate a sandwich wrap. The Pathfinders Sunday Bible Study class of Ardmore Baptist donated funds so that each participant could take home muffin tins and healthy recipes.

We learned there are many ways to support someone. Some graduates gave rides to others; all made cupcakes to share with health care workers and grieving families; all shared the joy of laughter and time together. We rejoiced that Jesus gave us a clear mandate to help others in Matthew 25:35-36 and that we were able to bring a smile to those in grief – with cupcakes.



# Shopping Online for Christmas?



If so, your shopping can generate donations for Pivot by using Amazon Smile and choosing **Pivot Ministry, Inc., Winston-Salem**. According to Amazon, “Thanks to customers shopping at smile.amazon.com or using the Amazon app with AmazonSmile turned ON, everyday purchases make an impact. So far, AmazonSmile has donated:

- \$130.90 to Pivot Ministry Inc.
- Over \$377 million to US charities
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# Following God’s Will...Even When It’s Not What We Want!

By Carol Polk, Executive Director

Is Proverbs 19:21 one of your favorites?

*“Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.”*

Or do you like the Robert Burns quote in current lingo? *“The best-laid plans of mice and men often go awry.”*

These are usually **NOT** our favorites, for we like to plan, control, and have things go our way. Well, I’m not sure about your life these days, but I repeatedly hear people talk about how out of control life seems with the pandemic’s effects and after-effects on society and us individually. Example: Pivot recently had a committee meeting scheduled, with all members planning to be present and ready to report on their team projects. Within days of the meeting, one by one, five of the members had to cancel for legitimate reasons. Not what was planned. Uncontrollable. And we adapted.

That also happened with the participants in Pivot’s sixth semester. We kicked off in August with three passionate women committed to changing their lives, with a fourth passionate woman joining a little later. We had instructors scheduled for the first half of the semester, with each teacher committed to making a difference in the participants’ lives with God’s help. Best laid plans, in our hearts and officially communicated.

## **What do you mean we need to suspend classes for now? What?**

Similar to our committee members, legitimate reasons continued to interrupt our participants’ lives as Pivot classes continued. Weekly in-person attendance was challenging or nearly impossible, and virtual attendance was less than effective, especially since community is a vital part of Pivot’s benefits. Our ladies were missing foundational elements that are essential in the early weeks.

Trying as hard as we could to offer grace and reschedule instructors, we finally had a *Pivot Day of Prayer* in



which over 100 people prayed for God’s direction. We received countless emails of encouragement that we were on the right track to consider suspension. The conclusion of His will: **we suspended our sixth semester and will restart in the spring of 2023**. We have peace that we are following His will, even though it

wasn’t our plan. We received more emails affirming the decision. We are grateful to each one who prayed and to those who provided feedback, and God has since sent multiple affirmations of this decision.

**Yes! We are still ministering with them and our graduates. Please Pray!**

All four participants want to return in the spring. To sustain them through this interim pause, their mentors continue to stay in touch, offer encouragement, and meet with them as schedules allow. Pivot staff is also maintaining contact and encouragement. Please pray for all of us – participants, mentors, instructors, cancelled meal providers, and staff as we follow what is God’s path, which turned out to be different than our plans and desires.



*Bible Study instructors, Julie Bell and Shannon Burgess teaching with both in class participants and one on Zoom.*

## HELP MAKE THEIR DREAMS *Possible*

Help Pivot Ministry reach our \$40,000 goal by year-end. Donate at <https://pivotnow.org/possible> or put a check in the mail.

### Progress:

\$ 1,236 Quick donor response in first week  
 \$ 1,236 Dollar-for dollar match by one generous donor  
 \$ 4,765 Donations as of 11/14/22 = 12% of goal



### Ways your gifts may be used:

\$ 25 a Bible for one participant  
 100 essential instructional materials  
 250 \$:\$ savings match for participant  
 500 quarterly gatherings for graduates  
 1,250 classroom space for a semester  
 2,500 partial scholarship for one participant  
 5,000 full scholarship: intake - graduation - beyond

You may even name a scholarship after someone important in your life, as one donor has done already. Every penny counts. Mail a check or click here to donate or set up a recurring gift.

## Pivot Ministry is selected for LWS Action Learning Project

Leadership Winston-Salem has selected Pivot Ministry as one of eight Action Learning Project recipients for 2023. The purpose of the Action Learning Project (ALP) is to assign a group of eight community leaders in this year's LWS class to focus on a specific need of the chosen organization. The ALP team works together to provide a solution or recommendation for an issue or goal during a nine-month immersive learning experience. ALP teams explore complex problems or potential opportunities for non-profit organizations through a fresh set of eyes and work together to meet specific goals that elevate how the organization impacts the community. The team's extra resources include two Pivot board members, Harold Holmes as their experienced LWS coach, and Thurmond Toland, a knowledgeable LWS graduate.

### What can the ALP do for Pivot Ministry?

In applying to LWS for the project, Pivot Executive Director Carol Polk answered questions about the needs and plans of the ministry. Through focus groups in Pivot's formational research, we realized that there is a local population whose needs are different. Cultural values, customs, priorities, barriers, and situations require a modified curriculum and approach. Initial

interviews indicated that few organizations serve this community. In addition, many of them experience fear, a lack of trust, and other barriers that prevent them from seeking services.

Pivot is asking the ALP to answer three key questions in regards to the possibility of expanding into this community:

#### 1. Is there a need Pivot can meet and how?

Identify the most important unmet needs and issues facing this group of women, along with an under-served subset among them. Determine if these are needs Pivot could address by adapting in ways consistent with its mission, vision and national model.



Holmes

#### 2. With whom do we partner?

Identify and establish connections with local organizations and individuals currently serving and trusted by the community.



Toland

#### 3. How do we do it?

Identify ways to make Pivot's services more accessible and culturally relevant to the population. Among the factors to consider are referral sources, location of the classes, marketing channels, cultural nuances, as well as appropriate materials, instruction, and communications.

### A Win-Win for LWS and Pivot

Action Learning Projects bring LWS class participants together in a diverse team setting that fosters collaborative thinking and problem-solving. The program coaches new Flagship class participants through groups focusing on a project deliverable and the leadership learning process through inquiry, reflection, and feedback.

Pivot Ministry, as the recipient of this project focus, benefits in two distinct ways: **Impact:** The potential community impact of a Pivot expansion within the under-served community is tremendous. It will provide a proven framework for the involvement and collaboration of potentially hundreds of community members. **Timing:** With the team's help, Pivot will be able to advance the strategic expansion to these women sooner than anticipated. The required research and planning would otherwise take two to three years, given our small staff and limited resources.

Pivot is grateful and excited to be chosen as an Action Learning Project recipient. LWS is excited to partner with Pivot Ministry to help fulfill its service mission to the Winston-Salem community. For more information about LWS, contact April Garner at [april@leadershipws.org](mailto:april@leadershipws.org) or call 336-723-1002 ext. 1206.





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## Honorariums and Memorials Given by Pivot Donors

It is our privilege to share a list of donations made in honor or memory of special people in the lives of our donors since Pivot received nonprofit status in April 2020 through October 2022. We will do a better job of publicizing a list as these

types of gifts are made. You may even want to consider honoring someone with your next donation. Based on information you provide, we send a card or letter to let the appropriate people know of your gift.

<b>Named Scholarship for a Woman to Pivot</b>	<b>Given By</b>
Silba Rae Fennell Memorial Scholarship	Trisha Phillips and brothers, Robert and Bradley Fennell

<b>In Memory of</b>	<b>Given By</b>
Anna Lee Burchfeld Beth Tsiolkas Bobbie Hall Carole Moore Darlee Cantor Barnett Dot & Al Fultz Dr. Steven Nolghren James Harold Metts Jean Matthews Jim & Tim Cogdill Joe Sugg Johnny Jolly Kay Vives Lynn King	Dick & Peggy Warfford Dick & Peggy Warfford Dick & Peggy Warfford Dick & Peggy Warfford Dick & Peggy Warfford Sylvia Pickett (x2) Dick & Peggy Warfford Maria Brown-Metts (x2) Robert & Peggy Neal Margaret Cogdill Dick & Peggy Warfford Dick & Peggy Warfford Elaine Wilder Dick & Peggy Warfford, Lisa Smiley

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501 Miller Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
or click here to donate

<https://pivotnow.org/possible>

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