

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Our Spring Gathering was held on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Cynthiana Presbyterian Church in Cynthiana, Kentucky. It was a beautiful day with over 100 in attendance from twenty churches. The Cynthiana PW did a superb job of hosting the event. A delicious lunch was provided in a beautifully decorated assembly room. The participants in the program were Carol Winkler, PW Churchwide Moderator, Nancy Bryson, PWS Moderator of the Synod of Living Waters, The Reverend Philip Lotspeich, Transylvania General Presbyter, The Reverend Julie Olt, Pastor of the Cynthiana Presbyterian Church, Nell Line, PWP Moderator, Mary Weber, PWP Search Committee, Kay Grooms, PWP Treasurer, and Karen May, Elder of Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington.

Carol Winkler, our guest speaker, challenged us to be bolder than we are. She stated that we need to be bold at the local level and share our message with our church family, neighbors, and invite visitors to our gatherings. Carol also shared the work of PW in a creative approach using a flower pot and adding flags to the flowers highlighting the work of PW. The PW Mission Pledge will now be also referred to as the Annual Fund which will encompass all that PW does.

Nancy Bryson, PWS Moderator, announced that the PW website is much easier to use. She also encouraged us to attend the AL/MS Women's Conference at Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi, on June 13-15, 2018 as well as the PWS Triennial Gathering at First Presbyterian Church, in Tupelo, Mississippi, on June 13-15, 2019 featuring the theme of the Ten Commandments. Churchwide participants from Transylvania were commissioned by Nancy.

Philip Lotspeich, General Presbyter of Transylvania Presbytery, addressed the group saying that he was aware of the power of Presbyterian Women. He shared how his daughter, Abigail, had been surrounded by strong women who counseled her about doing what she wants to do in the future. He also highlighted the Cynthiana Presbyterian Church for their innovative coffee shop, The Main Cup.

Reverend Julie Olt gave an excellent homily which was an overview of Esther's story and emphasized how one small decision can make a huge difference. She mentioned the role that Vashti played in the events and how her decisions make it possible for Esther to act to save her people. Doing small things with great love can bring great consequences.

Karen May led the group in the Eternal Circle Litany and read the names of the women who have died in 2017. Georgia Bacquet, retiring Recording Secretary, was honored for her service since 1986. Mary Weber presented Nell Line with an Honorary Life Award pin and certificate thanking her for her wonderful service to the Transylvania PW's.

The Mission Pledge, PW's Annual Fund received \$336.50 and the Harrison County Food Pantry received \$336.50 from the offering collection.

**FALL GATHERING – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2018, AT CAMP BURNAMWOOD. SPEAKER IS STILL TO BE DETERMINED.**