

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL
CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONVENTION

Franklin, Tennessee

June 27-30, 2005

Monday, June 27, 2005

Regional Council Breakfast and Meeting

Delegates from each region met at 8:00 am for breakfast and to choose the recipients of the monies for the special projects and offering for 2006-2007. Nancy McClung, Convention President-elect, welcomed the delegates and those who would be making presentations. Convention President Patricia Smith offered prayer.

Carol Medley, Convention Past President introduced the other members of the Convention Executive Committee: President Patricia Smith, President-elect Nancy McClung, Secretary Jo Ann Shugert and Secretary-elect Debbie Hayes. Director of Women's Ministry Dr. Pam Phillips-Burk was also introduced.

The morning began with Jo Ann making announcements and Nancy handing out three door prizes. Nancy then presented a dramatic presentation called "It's About Time". The presentation included her husband, Ollie McClung, Jr. and her neighbor, Bebe Costner. The drama was followed by the recorded song "Be Strong and Take Courage".

Pat introduced Judy Keith from the Children's Home who wanted to say a "thank you" for all the years Women's Ministry has supported the Children's Home through a variety of projects. Ms. Keith said the children and staff think of Women's Ministry as they daily sit on the dining room chairs, when they use the exercise equipment, when they ride in the old van, and as they prepare for the new van coming with next year's convention offering.

Pat then introduced the following representatives who explained their proposed project:

Robert Prosser – Bethel College

- 1.) Lobby Furnishing for New Dormitory
- 2.) Antique Lighting for Campus

Robert Watkins and Zenobia Daza – Board of Missions

Improving the Standard of Living for Women Heads of Households of the CPC in Cali, Colombia, SA

Elinor Brown and Debbie Shelton – Board of Stewardship

The Cumberland Presbyterian Women's Ministry Endowment for Minister Care

Jay Earhart-Brown – Memphis Theological Seminary

New Sign for MTS

After a short break, the Regional Council, co-chaired by Betty Snow and Carolyn Harmon, met to decide which projects to be recommended to Convention.

General Assembly Opening

General Assembly opened at 2:00 pm. Reverend Linda Glenn was elected Moderator and Rev. H. Hugh Parsons was elected Vice Moderator.

Moderator's Reception

A reception honoring the Moderator, Rev. Linda Glenn, Vice Moderator, Rev. Hugh Parsons, Retiring Moderator, Reverend E.G. Sims, Convention President, Patricia Smith, and Convention President-elect Nancy McClung was held at Jenkins CPC.

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

Opening of Convention

The Convention opened at 10:30 am with announcements, greetings, welcome and a responsive call to worship by Convention President, Patricia Smith. Millie Finley from McKenzie, Tennessee gave the Constituting Prayer.

Carol Medley presided over the parade of banners.

Pat read the Convention theme scriptures, Esther 4:14 and Matthew 25:34-40. Pat introduced Teri Peacock who gave a dramatic rendition of Queen Esther. Teri Peacock travels all over the United States sharing her talents. She has even performed in Israel! In the fall of 1985, she felt God calling her into a performance ministry. Out of that calling, the monologue "Mary's Story" emerged. The comedic programs "Viney Mae" and "Viney Mae II." followed this first monologue. She has also developed programs based on the "Woman at the Well" as well as "Queen Esther." She is married, and the mother of three (all graduated), and the Safta (Sahf-Hebrew for Grandmother) of three. She is currently living in Memphis, Tennessee with her husband, Jeff.

The morning's program was concluded with the benediction given by Pat.

Convention was adjourned until 1:30 this afternoon.

The Afternoon Session was opened with informal singing led by Sally Sain and accompanied by Lucia Wheeler

Nancy made announcements and gave away several door prizes before beginning the afternoon activities.

Greetings were given by Gladys Kante, President of the Missionary Society of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America, and Wakana Suzuki from Japan Presbytery who invited us to the 2008 General Assembly and Convention in Japan.

A skit called "Hands and Hearts Together: Fellowship of Least Coin" was presented by Sidney Milton and Shirley Griffith.

Rosy Aja from Soncoast Region led us in a Litany of Faith and Courage.

Sally Sain presented a musical special, *To Be Used by God*.

Business Meeting:

Credentials Committee Report Number 1 (APPENDIX "A" and filed)- Gayle Hutto, on behalf of the Credentials Committee, reported a total of 192 voting delegates, with a total registered of 224.

Nominating Committee Report (APPENDIX “B” and filed) - Gaye Wood, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented the following slate of officers:

2005-2006 Officers:

President: Nancy McClung, Alabama Grace Region, Southeast Synod

President-elect: Debbie Cox, Region of Hope, Southeast Synod

Past President: Pat Smith, Columbia Region, Tennessee Synod

Secretary: Debbie Hayes, Covenant Region, Midwest Synod

Secretary-elect: Barbara Harrell, Red River Region, Mission Synod

Nominating Committee: (three year term)

Past Convention Officer: Tana Sue Lawson, Tennessee-Georgia Region, Southeast Synod

Member-at-large: Mary Ann Cole, Cumberland Region, Midwest Synod

Regional Council Special Project Report (APPENDIX “C” and filed) - Betty Snow, on behalf of the Regional Council reported the following special projects for August 2006-2007 and 2007 Convention Offering:

2007 Convention Offering -- “Jobs Program for Women Heads of Household in Cali

Special Project #1 -- the same project chosen for the Convention Offering

Special Project #2 -- The Cumberland Presbyterian Women’s Ministry Endowment for Minister Care

A round-table discussion and Power point presentation called “Reaching Out After Retirement” was presented by sisters Erma and Elva Vos with Laurie Sharpe, Director of Third Age Ministry acting as facilitator.

A Membership Endowment Presentation was presented by Glynda Corbin who read a book called *Miss Rumphius* followed by the handing out of Forget-Me-Not seed packets with Board of Missions information on the back. Convention participants were charged with spreading the seeds of faith by giving membership endowments.

Convention was adjourned at 4:00 pm until 8:30 am Wednesday morning.

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Prelude by Lucia Wheeler. Informal singing was led by Sally Sain and accompanied by Lucia Wheeler.

Pat Smith welcomed everyone and shared her thoughts about the previous day’s program and theme scripture in Esther 4:14.

Natashia Underwood, a Youth Delegate, sang *No Greater Love*.

Nancy McClung made announcements and handed out door prizes.

Debbie Hayes led a responsive call to worship. Participants then sang the hymn, *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*.

Pat White, editor of *The Cumberland Presbyterian*, told about her trip to Myanmar, the World Vision emphasis for 2004 and 2005 Love Loaf Offering. The presentation included a showing of the Board of Mission’s video about the trip.

Convention then heard a stirring presentation by Virginia Nesmith, Director of National Farm Worker Ministry (NFWM). Ms. Nesmith spoke about the work of NFWM and how people can become involved in this meaningful ministry.

A 10-minute break was taken. Sally Sain called us together with singing.

Beth Cole and Tiffany McClung presented one of the Bible Studies for the upcoming year. Tiffany did the monologue about Priscilla. Beth then facilitated the discussion/reflection time by forming small groups of 6-8 women and using questions and prayers suggested in the Bible Study resource.

Jo Ann Shugert led the Memorial Service. Following a printed litany, a representative from each region was invited to come forward and name the women who had died during the past year. As each region was presented, a candle was lit in memory of those women.

Pat led us in a special time of prayer for Judy Pope, a former Regional President and member of the Host Credentials Committee and Jacob Rogers, 9-month-old grandson of Marlene Kroder.

Pam Phillips-Burk made announcements concerning the off-site service projects scheduled for the afternoon session.

Nancy McClung made announcements. Carol Medley announced banner winners.

1st place: Trinity South

2nd place: Columbia Region

Third Place: White River Region

Convention was recessed at 12 Noon until 1:30 this afternoon.

The Afternoon Session involved work groups and focus groups. There was a representative from each agency, as well as members from Columbia Region in the Women's Ministry Office (Clydesdale) at 1:30 p.m. to give directions and provide assistance in helping volunteers get to the service sites. Each Focus Group was offered two times (1:30 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.).

Reaching Out to Serve in Franklin, Tennessee – off site work opportunities

GraceWorks – multi-faceted ministry of clothes closet, food pantry, and other assistance.

Bridges – domestic violence shelter and supporting ministries.

My Friend's House – a residential group home for abuse and neglected teen boys.

Focus Groups

Reaching Out through Hospice - Rev. Lisa Oliver, Chaplain with Odyssey Hospice of Nashville

Reaching Out through Hospital Ministry - Rev. Lisa Anderson, Chaplain at St. Jude Children's Hospital, Memphis

Reaching Out through Domestic Abuse Ministry - Linda Crockett-Jackson, Director, Bridges of Williamson County

Reaching Out through Intercessory Prayer - Jo Ann Shugert, Marshall CP Church, Marshall, MO

Thursday, June 30, 2005

This morning's session was opened with Nancy McClung giving away door prizes. She then made several announcements:

Helen Winn announced she is selling pewter crowns.

Mary Lin Childs is selling “Wendy’s” bracelets to support the ministry of Wendy Skinner in Guatemala.

Pam talked about the Women’s Only Work Groups taking place over the next two weeks.

Lucia Wheeler gave the prelude.

The Call to Worship was led by Carol Medley which was followed by the hymn *He Leadeth Me*.

Business Meeting

Credentials Committee – APPENDIX “D” and filed. Gayle Hutto gave the report, which reflected 195 total voting delegates, and 229 total registered. The report was accepted.

Regional Council - APPENDIX “B” and filed. Report given by Betty Snow who moved the report be received and the recommendations adopted. Seconded and passed.

Nominating Committee APPENDIX “C” and filed. Report was given by Gaye Wood who moved the report be received and the recommendations adopted. Seconded and passed.

Executive Committee - APPENDIX “E” and filed. Report was given by Nancy McClung for information only.

Participants sang the hymn *God You Have Set Us in This Time and Place*. Nancy led the Call to Confession, the Prayer of Confession, and offered the Words of Assurance. Pat then invited Convention participants to share the peace of Christ with each other. *Ballet Exaltation* performed two beautiful dances.

Robert Watkins, Director of Global Missions with the Board of Missions presented information about the 2006 Convention Offering which is a Nursing Home project in Cauca Valley Presbytery. He showed an informative DVD. The offering was taken, followed by a prayer of thanksgiving led Debbie Hayes.

Special Prayer was made for Craig Cutto by Pat.

A 15-minute break was taken.

Convention was called back to order at 10:00 am by Pat with announcements. Lita Swindle spoke about how she had participated on a work team to Cauca Valley Presbytery to work on the nursing home and while there met one of the residents. Upon returning home, she prepared mission skits for her church’s Vacation Bible School program based on this woman. She has scripts available for anyone to use if they wish.

Cornelia Swain, former Director of CPW, was recognized.

Special Music was provided by Terrance Bybee who sang two selections, *People Need the Lord* and *Thank You*.

The President’s Message entitled *Cumberland Presbyterian Women Called For Such A Time As This*, was delivered by Pat. *Ballet Exaltation* danced once again to the song *Artist of My Soul*. Worship was concluded with the celebration of Holy Communion led by Pam Phillips-Burk. Sally Sain sang *How Beautiful* as communion was being served.

As the hymn of Commitment *Take My Life and Let It Be* was sung, paper hands were handed out as a symbol of remembrance of this year's Convention. Pat delivered the benediction.

Convention was adjourned until the Luncheon at 12:30 pm.

The Convention Luncheon was opened with a welcome by the Mistress of Ceremonies, Leslie Stephens, Winchester Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Winchester, Tennessee. After a wonderful lunch, we were entertained by the musical group, *In His Name* which is a praise and worship band comprised of singers from all over Columbia Presbytery. Members include Debbie Crawford, Teri Earheart-Williams, Rob Haines, Holly Nimmo and Cody Richrdson

Bob Prosser, President of Bethel College presented Erica Frizzell, recipient of the 2005-2006 Beverly St. John Bethel College Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. Erica will be a sophomore at Bethel with a declared major in Early Childhood Development in Education. Erica's home church is Colonial Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Memphis.

The main speaker for the luncheon, Virginia Nesmith, Executive Director of the National Farm Worker Ministry, gave an inspirational invitation to reach out to serve through the work of this ministry.

Carol Medley led the Installation of the following 2005-2006 Convention Officers:

President: Nancy McClung, Alabama Grace Region, Southeast Synod

President-elect: Debbie Cox, Region of Hope, Southeast Synod

Past President: Pat Smith, Columbia Presbytery, Tennessee Synod

Secretary: Debbie Hayes, Covenant Region, Midwest Synod

Secretary-elect: Barbara Harrell, Red River Region, Mission Synod

Convention President, Nancy McClung, gave the blessing and benediction, which closed the 2005 Convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo Ann Shugert
2005 Convention Secretary