

2018 Churchwide PW Gathering---Information for PWSCT

August 2-5, 2018 at the Galt House in Louisville

Celebrate 30 years of Presbyterian Women!

Arise, shine, your light has come

The PWSCT Leadership Team met through e-mail in November to discuss the PWSCT's attendance at the 2018 Churchwide PW Gathering. Because the PW Business Meeting occurs immediately before the Gathering, it is not practical to have a PWSCT meeting prior to the Gathering as we have done in the past. While everyone on the PWSCT is encouraged to attend the Gathering, the PWSCT cannot help with the expenses for everything. I am enclosing these guidelines based the 2015 Gathering Minneapolis; these were reviewed by the current PWSCT Leadership Team (Anne Little, Cheryl Pennington, and myself) and Kathy White, PWSCT Treasurer.

- The PWSCT will **NOT** pay the \$425 registration for the Gathering for any members of the PWSCT. However, partial scholarships are available upon application.
- The PWSCT will pay travel and lodging expenses according to the attached guidelines for the following upon submission of vouchers:
 - All officers with vote on the PWSCT whose terms expire in 2018, 2019, or 2020
 - Incoming officers with vote on the PWSCT
 - Incoming Search Committee Chair, who has vote on the PWSCT
- The PWSCT will **NOT** pay expenses for the following individuals. However, partial scholarships are available upon application:
 - Search Committee members who do not have vote on the PWSCT (only the Search Chair has vote)
 - Presbytery Moderators or Representatives whose expenses should be paid by their Presbyteries.

The scholarship application is available on the website: <http://www.sospwconnect.com/> and in the 2017 PW Handbook.

Gathering Registration:

- Registration is \$425 for full Gathering programming and begins January 15, 2018. This includes Friday lunch and Thursday and Saturday dinner. New this year, registration and payment for the Synod Luncheon on Saturday is a \$32 option which should be paid with Registration.
- The inside front cover of the Registration Booklet enumerates the benefits of registering by May 1.
- If you are not applying for a scholarship for your registration, please register either online or by mailing your registration per the instructions.

- If you are approved for a partial scholarship, send your completed registration, along with a check for the portion you will pay, to the Synod Treasurer (Kathy White), who will attach the scholarship funds and submit your registration to the Gathering Registrar.
 - Please note: if you receive a scholarship and subsequently are unable to attend the Gathering, we request that you prayerfully consider reimbursing the PWSCT for the scholarship portion of your registration fee.
- If you are unable to pay any portion of your registration fee, please contact me no later than March 1st.

Room Reservation:

- The Gathering is at the Galt House in Louisville. Nightly room rates for one to four persons per room range from \$144 (deluxe, two queen beds), \$159 (deluxe, two doubles, or \$159 (executive, two queens)—plus—room taxes and fees currently at 16.07%.
- If you prefer to have a non-PWSCT roommate, please make your own roommate decisions and reserve your own room. You may submit a voucher for the allowable part of this expense after the Gathering.
 - Please note that the PWSCT will pay for ½ of the allowable hotel rate if you have one roommate, 1/3rd of the allowable hotel expense if you have 2 roommates, and 1/4th of the allowable hotel expense if you have 3 roommates.
 - The allowable rates for our SCT are the \$144 for 1-2 persons per room and \$159 for 3-4 persons per room.
 - If you select the rooms costing \$179 or \$325, you will be reimbursed at the allowable rate of \$144 per room.
- If you choose not to have a roommate, you will be responsible for paying one-half of the hotel cost per night.
- If you do not have a roommate and desire one, or if vouchering the room expense will be a financial hardship, please let me know by March 1. I will assign roommates with those who respond and let you know about our room reservations.
- Only one person per hotel room should submit an online hotel reservation or call for the reservation but should provide the names of others who will occupy that room.
- Each Gathering attendee staying at the Galt House will receive three \$5 vouchers for food and beverages (excluding alcohol) purchased in the Galt House. Free breakfast is not included in the room rate.
- The PWSCT will not reimburse you for ancillary room charges, such as room service, items that you charge to your room, movies, etc.

Travel:

- Please plan to travel to Louisville as cheaply as possible. Some of you may want to car pool; get to know each other better and have some fun along the way!
- Make your own travel arrangements and voucher the expense after the Gathering. If this is a financial hardship, please contact the Kathy White (Treasurer) and copy me to make your flight arrangements or to advance you funds for gas/hotel as your travel.

Here's a condensed summary for those eligible for PWSCT funds for the Gathering:

- **PWSCT paying:**
 - Transportation/Travel (as explained)
 - Room (for SCT members only, as explained)
- **PWSCT NOT paying:**
 - Registration fee (optional scholarship aid available)
 - Incidentals (as explained)

If any of this information is confusing, you may contact me by cell phone (281-725-7830) or e-mail. Please register and make your travel and hotel arrangements as soon as you can to receive the best rates.

If I don't hear from you by January 15, I will assume you will take care of your registration, travel and hotel accommodations.

Please note: Due to the expense of the Gathering and to help make up some of the higher-than-expected expenses from the Hyatt Place in Irving in March, 2017 we do not have sufficient funds to have a second face-to-face PWSCT meeting in 2018. As previously communicated, we will meet in San Antonio on March 16-18, 2018 and then have a SCT meeting using Zoom (exact date to be determined later) sometime in August, 2018. SCT officers will be installed at the Synod of the Sun luncheon at Churchwide on Saturday, Aug. 4.