

A Service of Recognition

Honorary Life Membership

By Marilyn Clark

Opening

One: In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
love of God, and the communion of the Holy
Spirit,

All: We trust in the one true God, the Holy One
of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.¹

Hymn

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service" (GtG 761)

Presentation

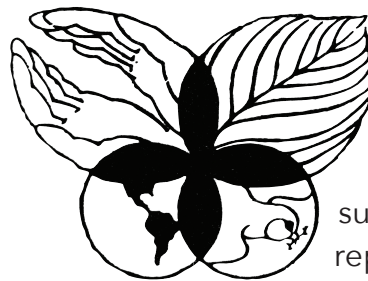
One: It is a joy and a privilege to present to you,
<name of honoree>, this pin and certificate
signifying an Honorary Life Membership from
Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.).

You have been chosen for your commitment to
Christ and your faithful service in the church.
<insert specifics> We wish to express our
appreciation and to recognize you today.

The financial contribution made in your honor
will be used to support leadership development
for women, thereby enabling more of Christ's
disciples to become informed and active leaders
whose increased understanding and skills will
further the church's mission in the world. This
gift will contribute to the stream of women who,
transformed by the love of God, have become
agents of hope for their communities.

The Honorary Life Membership program has
deep roots within the women's organizations of

the church, since at least the 1830s.
Two centuries of faithful discipleship!
Today you join the
tens of thousands
of faithful
Presbyterian
women (and
men) honored
for their service.
Your light, like
theirs, shines,
allowing all to "see
your good works and
give glory" to God (Matt. 5:16).



The Honorary Life
Membership pin
symbolizes values held
dear by Presbyterian
Women. The caring,
supportive hands
represent those who seek
to build an inclusive, caring
community. The leaf represents personal growth
and our corporate response to Jesus Christ,
nurtured in faith. The dove indicates our work
for peace in our own lives and throughout the
world, shown in the globe. At the center of the
design is the cross, by which our sins are
forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ—who
is at the center of our lives. The overall design
is of a butterfly, a symbol of newness in Christ.
[The presenter may affix the pin (or utilizing the
loop option on the back of HLM pins, bestow as
a pendant with a cord) and the recipient may
respond.]



Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: God of all times and places, we thank you for making us in your image, creating us to live together in your love and peace. We praise you for implanting in the heart of <name of honoree> the hope and vision of a caring community, a people of faith working together to pursue justice, show mercy and extend love. We thank you for <name of honoree>'s gifts, abilities and commitment. We ask your continued blessing on <name of honoree>, who has shown strength and patience, wisdom and love. We pray that we may hear what you are calling us to do in this time and in this place. Lead us, O God, to be diligent in prayer, enthusiastic in learning and steadfast in service. Through us, make real your community in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing

All: In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"²

Marilyn Clark served as the first PW treasurer on PW's churchwide board in 1988 after the UP-CUSA and PCUS reunified as "today's" Presbyterian Women.

Notes

¹ "A Brief Statement of Faith," *Book of Confessions* (Louisville, KY: Office of the General Assembly, 2016), 11.1, 1-6.

² "A Brief Statement of Faith," 11.4, 72-76.

* Hymn marked GtG is from *Glory to God* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2013).

To participate in the Honorary Life Membership program, visit presbyterianwomen.org/downloads/honorary-life-membership-form/ to download a form or apply online at presbyterianwomen.org/give. Questions? Contact pw_pcusa@pcusa.org or call 844/PWPCUSA, option 2.

Tips for Groups Presenting Honorary Life Memberships



A Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership may be given to someone who was previously honored. Both gold and silver pins are available.



A person may be honored for any significant service to the church or PW in the Congregation, Presbytery, Synod or Churchwide.

The honor is not limited to women; any individual may be honored. The HLM pin is also a pendant. Consider providing the recipient with a cord or chain for that option.

Presentation helps are available, including visuals such as the PW logo and PW Purpose, even a yard sign for honoring recipients who are limited in mobility or by geography. Visit presbyterianwomen.org or contact pw_pcusa@pcusa.org for assistance.