

## **Chapter History of Northern Kentucky Threshold Singers**

### **2025**

#### **Chapter Formation**

The impetus for forming the Northern Kentucky Threshold Singers arose during an outdoor meeting of Threshold Singers of Cincinnati held during the summer of 2021. At that time, a man repeatedly expressed interest in joining that chapter, but the chapter chose to remain open to women only. The chapter members living in northern Kentucky discussed the possibility of forming a chapter in northern Kentucky, allowing male members. Carol Ray volunteered to take on the leadership role for the new chapter. She underwent one-on-one Threshold training for new leaders, in which she was mentored by Susan Smith of the Tallahassee chapter. The new chapter was approved in January 2022, and held its first meeting on January 12, 2022, with seven charter members.

#### **Membership**

Of those seven original members, only three remain members today. As of November 12, 2025, the Northern Kentucky chapter has grown to 16 members. Interestingly, half of the members live in Ohio. Two of the chapter's members also belong to Threshold Singers of Cincinnati. The chapter has six members who are currently employed, and 10 members who are retired. Although the chapter allows male members, currently there are only female members.

#### **Community Outreach and Practice**

The chapter sings twice a month at Madonna Manor in Villa Hills and weekly at St. Elizabeth Hospice in Edgewood, where the chapter also holds its meetings. The chapter meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from 5-6 PM.

Five of the chapter's members are new to the chapter and are still learning the 20 core songs. All but one of the remaining members sings regularly at bedside. When a member has learned our 20 core songs and has had sufficient experience singing at bedside, the chapter holds a graduation celebration for them, typically at a member's home. The graduate leads a song they select, with others singing harmony to a recipient lying in a zero-gravity chair. Then the graduate receives a song they select, while lying in the chair. Afterwards, everyone enjoys the potluck offerings brought by our members, and getting to know each other better.

Graduation for Martha Wright, Jill Garrett, and Char Fieger. April 24, 2024. Kathy Weiler, Jen Dempsey, Marion Crowe, Mary Patterson, Martha Wright, Jill Garrett, Carol Ray, Char Fieger, Jane Bloch.

