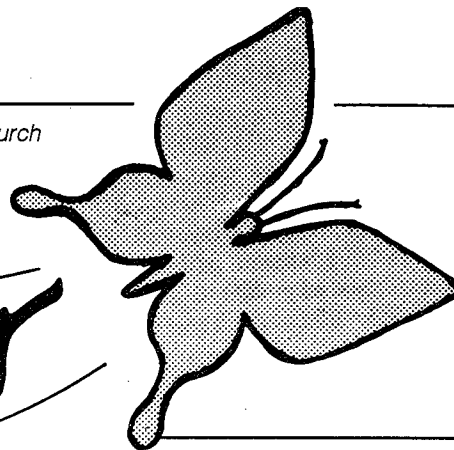


The Flyer



Vol XV, No. 2

Fall 1994

39 million Americans without health care

Elders calls for partnership to improve health

"Of the 39 million Americans without healthcare, 9.5 million are children, and 10 million are women," declared U.S. Surgeon General M. Joycelyn Elders, M.D., speaking to the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, Sept. 22.

In the chapel of Foundry United Methodist Church in Washington, D.C., Elders outlined how poverty has grown among children from one in seven in 1970 to one in four in 1992. She explained that children are poor because their mothers are poor. The only club these children can belong to is the "Five H Club": hungry, healthless, homeless, hugless, and hopeless. Every night 3 to 5 million children in the U.S. go to bed hungry. Continuing her description of the Five H

Club, Elders pointed out, "Every criminal has a constitutional right to a lawyer, but not every sick person has a right to healthcare." One third of our country's homeless persons are children. Elders emphasized, "For many children, it is easier to find drugs than hugs from a parent, teacher, or friend."

These same children are growing up with no hope of a better future. The solution to this tragedy, according to Elders, is for each adult in the country to assume responsibility for one child.

In regard to women's health issues in particular, Elders commented that lung cancer is a greater killer among women than breast cancer. The rate of smoking in young men has decreased, while the rate among young women has not decreased comparably.



U.S. Surgeon General M. Joycelyn Elders, M.D., accepts applause following her keynote address to the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, Sept. 22. Commission President Ann B. Sherer, right, moderates the session at Foundry United Methodist Church, Washington, D.C.

GCSRW vision: Full, equal participation of all women

At its fall meeting, Sept. 22-25 at the Dupont Plaza Hotel, Washington, D.C., the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women declared its vision for the future: "Making our church whole: the full and equal participation of all women."

Led by Lovett Weems, president of St. Paul's School of Theology, and Susan Sonnenday Vogel, executive vice president of St. Paul's, the Commission completed the visioning work that was begun at the February meeting. The process led the group through broad ranging discussions of needs, arenas, obstacles, and key strengths. Among the recurring concerns voiced was the role of women of color, one concern that led to the vision proclaimed.

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With the current rate of one in every nine women contracting breast cancer, 50 percent over 50 have never had a mammogram. In this case, the problem, she explained, is lack of knowledge, not lack of money.

Women comprise 30 to 40 percent of the 10 million alcoholics in the U.S. Many of these are young women who may give birth

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Train 150 victim/survivor advocates

In the first nationwide event of its kind, more than 150 United Methodists—lay and clergy—were trained, Sept. 22, as advocates for victims and survivors of clergy sexual abuse.

Participants from 51 of the 68 U.S. Annual Conferences attended the event in Kansas City, cosponsored by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women and the National Program Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Purpose of the event was to prepare persons, primarily lay women, to act as advocates for persons who bring complaints of sexual abuse or harassment against United

Methodist clergy in pastoral or supervisory relationships.

The advocates training is a response to statistics that show a startling high incidence of sexual misconduct by clergy. According to a 1990 survey of church workers done by the Office of Research of General Council on Ministries, 20 percent of lay persons had experienced sexual harassment in the church, as well as 37 percent of church employees, 48 percent of students and 77 percent of clergy women.

In a 1992 survey of United Methodists about issues of women and families in crisis,

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Elders calls for partnership

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to children with fetal alcohol syndrome. In fact, one in 10 children are born exposed to a drug or alcohol.

Minority women comprise the group with the fastest growing rate of new AIDS cases, Elders reported. Moreover, 59 percent of infants born with HIV, the virus associated with AIDS, are black, and 70 percent are minority.

Heart disease among women has not decreased at the same rate as among men. In fact, heart disease kills seven times more women than breast cancer, pointed out the surgeon general.

Elders proclaimed, "I want to change our sick care system to a health care system. We spend \$940 billion a year on sickness, and less than one percent of that amount on well care."

Focusing on teenage pregnancy, she explained that the cost for children born to teens has risen from \$16 billion in 1987 to \$34 billion in 1993, including Aid to Families with Dependent Children, food stamps, and Medicaid. "Yet the 1995 federal budget contains less than \$200 million for family planning for poor women," Elders explained. "We've got to teach our young men to be responsible young men, that there's more to being a father than walking around do-



Jerald Scott, General Board of Church and Society, responds to the keynote address given by Dr. Elders.

nating sperm." And, she emphasized, we have to teach parents how to talk to their children about reproduction.

She called on United Methodists to come together to improve the health status of women and their children. Churches must work within their communities as a resource for change.

Elders opened her presentation with thanks to women in the Methodist Church who first introduced her to the idea of a college education by offering her a scholarship to Philander Smith College in Arkansas.

In responding to Elders' presentation, Jerald Scott, associate program director, Ministry of God's Human Community, General Board of Church and Society (GBCS), expressed appreciation for Elders' presentation and commented, "I believe the church is going to be the answer to changing the lives of persons addicted to drugs."

Just returned from the U.N. Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Jane Hull Harvey, assistant general secretary, GBCS, pointed out that in the conference plan of action, the strongest chapter addressed the concerns of women and children. ■

Women in the church called to become partners to improve health of women and children

Elders called on women in The United Methodist Church to come together as partners to bring about improved health status of women and their children. She outlined these steps:

- P**—work for Programs and Policies that focus on Prevention.
- A**—become Advocates for change.
- R**—promote Research into women's health needs and Reach out into our communities.
- T**—use the Tools of commitment that lead us beyond concern.
- N**—use our Networking skills, for women are the greatest networkers.
- E**—Educate and Empower women.
- R**—share the Responsibility for our own health.
- S**—be Successful, for the health of our nation is at stake. ■

Victim/survivor advocate training

from page 1

one in 56 reported sexual abuse by a clergy person. In fact, the prevalence of sexual abuse is higher in the church than in corporate America, according to the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence in Seattle, WA.

Through drama, workshops and discussion, advocates explored ways in which the church can respond in a caring and effective way to clergy misconduct to enable healing through appropriate justice.

Advocates expressed a strong commitment to responding positively as United Methodists to the needs of persons who have come to the church to find sanctuary and comfort but who found manipulation and abuse. Through listening to and believing the stories of abuse survivors, the workshop

curriculum stressed, advocates can properly help them to seek justice and begin the healing process.

Two dramas were presented which passionately depicted crisis situations and responses by the church.

Members of the planning committee for the event included Joan Chapin, Detroit Conference, and Janet Rae Wreath, Missouri West Conference, both directors of the General Board of Global Ministries; Peggy Halsey, executive secretary for ministries with women and families, National Division, General Board of Global Ministries; Stephanie Anna Hixon and Cecilia M. Long, members of the general secretariat of GCSRW; and Anita D. Wood, GCSRW member from the West Ohio Conference.

The Flyer

Fall 1994
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The Flyer is published four times yearly by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) in the United Methodist Church (UMC) as a communication link with the 68 Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women (ACCSRWs). Primary distribution of The Flyer is through the ACCSRWs; individual subscriptions, available through the GCSRW, are \$7.50.

Editor: Bonny Stalnaker Roth

The GCSRW, a national agency of the UMC, acts as an advocate, catalyst, and monitor to ensure the full participation and equality of women in the church.

GCSRW officers:

Ann Sherer, President/Joyce Waldon Bright, Vice-President/John Campbell, Secretary

General Secretariat:

Stephanie Anna Hixon/Cecelia Long

GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201
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Printed on recycled paper. ♻️

Making our church whole

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In other action, Monitoring and Research Work Unit reported that thus far the Commission has received copies of sexual harassment policies from 50 annual conferences or episcopal areas, 3 local churches, 3 general agencies, and 1 seminary. Some are in preliminary form, revised form, newly adopted, or under revision. (The 1992 General Conference passed a resolution requiring all annual conferences, general boards and agencies, and UM-related institutions to have in place a sexual harassment policy and grievance procedures before Jan. 1, 1995.)

In the context of discussing a monitoring instrument on racism, Lois Dauway, assistant general secretary, Women's Division Section on Christian Social Relations, General Board

of Global Ministries, spoke on institutional and other forms of racism.

Issue Development/Education/Advocacy (IDEA) Work Unit reported that the Racism/Sexism Task Force will soon be conducting a survey of racial/ethnic clergywomen to discern their experiences with discrimination in the church. They also reported on the successful teleconference, held May 10, "Healing Broken Lives and Communities," and on the upcoming training for victims/survivors advocates to support victims

An important resource you should know...

Indicators of Institutional Racism, Sexism and Classism: Some Suggested Responses

This book is published by and is available from...

Office of Inclusiveness and Justice Study Committee
National Council of Churches of Christ, USA
475 Riverside Dr., Room 880, New York, NY 10115
(212) 870-2914

The cost is \$2.50 for single copy.

Bulk rates are available.

of clergy sexual misconduct.

Annual Conferences and Constituency Services Work Unit made plans for four jurisdictional conference calls during 1995-1996 to help facilitate communication among annual conference leaders and jurisdictional leaders. The group discussed basic background and approach for a video that the general secretariat and a committee will help develop to tell the GCSRW story.

Interpretation Task Force announced that the Commission has contracted with Carolyn Oehler, former president of GCSRW, to compile a history of the work of GCSRW.

Personnel Committee recommended the general secretariat, Stephanie Anna Hixon and Cecelia Long, for reelection.

The Commission approved budgets of \$469,249 for 1995, and of \$506,862 for 1996, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Reporting for general agency liaisons to GCSRW, Jane Hull Harvey, General Board of Church and Society, lifted up for celebration the fact that United Methodist boards and agencies are now led by five women: Barbara Boigegrain, General Board of Pension and Health Benefits; Barbara Thompson, General Commission on Religion and Race; Judy Weidman, United Methodist Communication; and Cecelia Long and Stephanie Anna Hixon, GCSRW.

Looking ahead to the next century, the Commission reached consensus on exploring the feasibility of helping to sponsor a congress on Christian women in the 21st century. A task force will begin working on the idea. ■

COPY DEADLINES

To ensure inclusion of job announcements, calendar items, and other items to be published in **The Flyer**, please submit written details to the editor by these dates:

Nov. 30	Winter 1995
Feb. 15	Spring 1995

Send to: Bonny Stalnaker Roth, GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 869-7330. FAX: (708) 869-1466.

Worship services, highlight of Commission meeting

Following in a tradition of outstanding worship, the Sept. 22-25 meeting of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women featured a dramatic sermon, an inspirational speaker, and lively, inspirational music, all organized by Commission member Myrtle Hatcher, Hampton, VA.

During the opening plenary session on Thursday, the worship service featured a dramatic sermon, written by Maria Waters, pastor in Saluda, VA, and presented

by Becky Gwaltney, Smithfield, VA, Waters, and Hatcher. The drama depicted the story of Moses as the told by his older sister Miriam, midwife Puah, and Pharaoh's daughter.

Friday morning the Commission convened for worship, led by Commission member Cathy Gonzalez, East Chicago, IN, and her spouse Ruben Gonzalez. Dr.

Youtha Hardman-Cromwell, adjunct theology professor at Howard University and American University, preached the inspirational sermon.

Worship on Saturday began with a traditional Native American smudging ceremony led by Commission members Marv Abrams, La Mirada, CA, and Gary Long, Phoenix, AZ. Gospel music by the BCG Ensemble was the highlight of the remainder of worship. The Ensemble includes Faye Wilson, of the New York office of the General Board of Global Ministries and her sisters Ginger and Rosie of Baltimore. ■



From left, Maria Waters, Becky Gwaltney, and Myrtle Hatcher portray Moses' sister, a midwife named Puah, and Pharaoh's daughter in a dramatic sermon at the September GCSRW meeting.



BCG Ensemble, from left, Faye Wilson and her sisters Ginger and Rosie, lead musical praise during worship at the GCSRW meeting.

Status Report

Cairo participants say women's needs must be first

United Methodists closest to the Sept. 5-13 United Nations conference on population and development in Cairo, Egypt, say anyone interested in population issues must look beyond abortion squabbles and listen to the needs of women.

"Almost unanimously, women from developing countries were completely exasperated by the process and the emphasis on abortion," said Kolya Braun, Women's Division executive for the General Board of Global Ministries.

Braun said she heard from a Bolivian woman, for example, about critical health problems facing indigenous women in her country. This includes a lack of medical care and facilities, domestic violence and discrimination in general.

Kathryn Harvey, a physician at Natividad Medical Center in Salinas, CA, conveyed the urgency she felt about the need for a workable population policy. She called the policy adopted by the conference "a new compass for the world" and said she thinks it is workable.

With this document, the U.N. conference in Cairo became the first to address population policy in terms of general health care and the empowerment of women to make choices in their lives.

"When the status of women and children is respected and protected and education is fostered, population growth slows," Harvey said.

Suzanne Paul, a United Methodist, represented Church World Service, relief agency of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., at a forum of nongovernmental agencies which ran concurrently with the U.N. conference.

Paul said the issue of population extends beyond reproductive questions. She said many representatives she talked with expressed the belief that governments must institute formal policies and programs on issues of aging because individual families can no longer handle the needs of a growing elderly population.

The United Methodist Reporter,
Sept. 30, 1994

Pastor accused of sexual harassment to retire

Barry Bailey, pastor of 10,500-member First UMC in Fort Worth, TX, has requested and received permission to take Aug. 31 retirement in the wake of accusations of sexual harassment. The Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and Conference Relations Committee approved the request. No formal charges were filed with the board.

Cassie Albaugh, 29, youth director at the church since 1989, filed the complaint with the State Department of Human Resources; she subsequently withdrew it while confidential negotiations are under way. Two other women have also accused Bailey of sexual harassment but neither filed a formal complaint.

Newscope, Sept. 16, 1994

Female clergy earn less

Female clergy earn less than their male counterparts in the Virginia Conference. A study found that even when differences in experience were factored in, female clergy earned from \$1,475 to \$10,164 less than the males.

A South Carolina survey found that the average salary for women clergy was \$1,675 less than that for male clergy. Last month, the South Indiana Conference asked the cabinet to prepare a plan of action to end the disparity in clergy salaries.

The denominational average compensation for all clergy, as determined by the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, is \$33,017. This does not include housing.

Newscope, July 22, 1994

Church Women United receive grant

Church Women United has been awarded a W. K. Kellogg Foundation grant in the amount of \$1,375,790 to provide emerging and established lay leaders the necessary and established leadership development skills to bring about social and economic change within the local community and on the national level. The three-year grant runs through July 31, 1997.

Church Women United is a national ecumenical movement of Protestant, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and other Christian women throughout the U. S. and Puerto Rico.

United Methodist Reporter,
Aug. 12, 1994

You can help support women in the Church Subscribe to The Flyer

The Flyer invites you to subscribe and thus demonstrate your support for women in the United Methodist Church. As the primary communication tool of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, **The Flyer** offers its readers updates on women's issues and resources for annual conference and local church women's groups. Your subscription will guarantee that you receive **The Flyer** for four more issues.

Yes, I would like to continue to receive **The Flyer**:

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Send your check to: **The Flyer**, The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, 1200 Davis, Evanston, IL 60201.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Annual Conference (if United Methodist) _____

A SAMPLER.....

Options for Action for Annual Conferences

(Sampler format adapted from *Guidelines for Leading Your Church: Status and Role of Women, 1993-1996*, Abingdon Press, 1992.)

The Flyer wishes to thank the Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women that have kept us informed of their activities. Their creative ideas have made this special supplement possible.

When annual conferences are named, the reference indicates the work of an Annual Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women (AC/CSRW).

A—Advertise

Advertising can take a variety of forms:

- California-Pacific AC/CSRW distributed "Ask Before You Grab" bags and coordinating buttons.
- Southern New Jersey has run advertisements in *United Methodist Relay: Voice of the New Jersey Area*, which feature statistics that illustrate the role of women.

B—Build bridges

Recognize those who have built bridges of support between men and women.

- Virginia and South Carolina have established bridge builder awards, which are presented each year at annual conference.
- North Alabama and California-Pacific present barrier breaker awards.

C—Coalitions

Continually work to build coalitions among leadership from across the conference and the jurisdiction.

- In the South Central Jurisdiction (SCJ), the collaboration of the Women's Leadership Team and the Coalition for an Inclusive Episcopacy helped to bring about the election of their first woman bishop, Ann B. Sherer; the first Hispanic bishop in the SCJ, Joel Martinez; and an African-American bishop, Alfred L. Norris.

D—Display

Organize a display during Annual Conference that offers a visual representation of women's concerns.

- Western North Carolina adorned its booth with yellow balloons imprinted with butterflies.
- North Georgia offered a handout with a variety of images for God.
- New York showed a six-minute videotape "One Fine Day," featuring Kay Weaver singing the title song with images of 19th and 20th century women in history.
- Kansas West displayed postcards honoring women in history.

E—Equal participation

Monitor annual conference leadership, speakers/preachers, and discussions for full and equal participation of women. Remember to share the information in a timely manner so that annual

conferences can respond. Consider including the details in a daily printed news report or posting them on prominent bulletin boards.

F—Families

Support women and their families.

- Nebraska sent to each conference pastor a mailing on resources for domestic violence services in Nebraska with a cover letter outlining statistics on the extent of the problem.
- Develop a childcare/dependent care policy to reimburse persons who incur these expenses when they participate in conference meetings and events.

G—Goals

Set clear goals and strategies for obtaining them.

- Troy AC/CSRW sets goals for the quadrennium, ranging from training local work area chairs, to monitoring local church inclusiveness, to declaring a special emphasis on spirituality, to planning major celebrations.

H—Healing

Consider the concerns of women related to health and issues of healing and wholeness. Healing may occur within a holistic approach that integrates mind, body, spirit, and creation.

I—Initiate study and invite response

Consider concerns of women that are not currently being addressed in your conference and initiate a study of the issue.

- South Carolina initiated a study of clergy salaries. The results indicated that as of Jan. 1, 1991, women received on average \$1,675 less than men (\$27,323 vs. \$28,998). The study also revealed an invisible salary barrier: 13 percent of men in the study group made between \$35,001 and \$50,000, whereas no woman was in this salary range.

J—Justice

Take courage, do justice. Remember that working for the full and equal participation of women is central to the life and ministry of the Church, which is called to maintain justice and do right in God's eyes (Isaiah 56).

K—Knowledge

Research and know your information and have it ready to share on issues of concern to women in the conference.

L—Language

Offer worship resources that exemplify varied images of God. Work with conference groups to encourage use of non-sexist language about God and persons.

Refer to *Words That Hurt, Words That Heal: Language about God and People* (Graded Press, 1990) for information on inclusive language.

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Options for Action for Annual Conferences from page 5

M—Maintain communication and contact with local churches

It is very important that local church Work Areas on the Status and Role of Women know what is happening within the AC/CSRW. Finding creative ways to maintain linkage with local churches is critical.

N—Network

Networking begins with you. Don't wait for someone else to develop a network for you to walk into.

O—Openness

Foster open communication and openness in relationships.

- West Michigan initiated a series of workshops across the conference to explore the development of mutual relationships between men and women, called "Pathways to Collegueship," led by Carol Pierce and David Wagner, authors of a text entitled *A Male/Female Continuum: Paths to Collegueship*.

P—Presentation

Develop dramatic presentations that may be used in local churches, conference gatherings, or other events.

- At Annual Conference, Florida AC/CSRW offered a portrayal of women in history: Susannah Wesley, Susan B. Anthony, Anna Howard Shaw, Georgia Elma Harkness, Leontine T.C. Kelly, and Sally Kristine Ride.
- Desert Southwest presented a portrayal of Frances Willard telling her story.

Q—Question

Take courage, ask questions, and listen to the answers.

- Sponsor a listening event to help determine the needs of women in your conference, districts, and local churches. Ask the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women for model outlines for planning.

R—Resources

Become familiar with basic and specialized resources available from agencies and commissions of The United Methodist Church, the public library, and government agencies working on issues of concern to women.

- Central Illinois sent all pastors a listing of area shelters for victims of domestic violence.

S—Sexual harassment

With such an important issue, AC/CSRWs may pursue numerous paths to learning and action:

- Educate yourselves about sexual harassment and misconduct.
- Review your conference's sexual harassment policy and offer revisions as necessary.
- Encourage local churches to develop sexual harassment and misconduct policies.
- Sponsor training for clergy and laity on understanding and prevention.

T—Train

Provide regular workshops and training events for local church and annual conference leadership.

- Peninsula offers district training workshops to help equip and support local church Status and Role of Women chairpersons.
- Central Illinois sponsored a workshop for women and men, laity and clergy, who want to learn more about the dynamics of domestic violence and how Christians can respond.
- Troy developed *Journey to Wholeness*, a training manual for local church work areas.

U—Understanding

Consider ways to foster understanding between men and women and among families of various types.

- Florida sponsored a special event featuring a panel of men and women in various home and work arrangements: "Women and Men Working and Living Together in Harmony."

V—Videos

Consider adding videos to your conference library. To order a catalogue from ECUFILM, an ecumenical film video distribution service, call 1-800-251-4091.

Find, develop, and use videos to dramatize your witness:

- Minnesota AC/CSRW developed a musical video and score to explore and expand our images of God, entitled *Images of God*.
- Southern New Jersey developed *A Tale of Two Genders*, focusing on major issues for the church: the status of women in the church documented by statistics; use of and monitoring for gender-inclusive language; the fullness of images of God; and Ecumenical Decade for Churches in Solidarity with Women, 1988-1998.

W—Worship

Watch for new resources for worship and disseminate the information to equip women throughout the conference to contribute to worship experiences in new ways.

- During 1994 Annual Conference, a resolution for All Women Ministry Sunday, proposed by Florida AC/CSRW, was passed. As a result each local church is asked to plan an annual worship service offered by women.
- The Inclusive Language Task Force of the Iowa AC/CSRW developed a book *Faithful Praise: New Inclusive Language Resources for Worship*.

X&Y—Xceptional Youth and Young adults

Exceptional youth and young adults are available in your annual conference to work with you toward the full and equal participation of women. Remember to invite their participation as you develop ministries.

Z—Zenith

You can help reach the zenith of our church's journey toward the promised land as you accomplish the items on this list!

For more information on these and other ideas, contact the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 869-7330.

Jobs

Contact employers, where possible, to confirm status of search process.

Director of Development, Perkins School of Theology, Dallas. Requires bachelor's degree, excellent interpersonal and time management skills, and willingness to travel extensively. Familiarity with The United Methodist Church desirable. Submit cover letter and resume postmarked by Dec. 7, 1994, to Director II, Perkins Search, Southern Methodist University, Box 750232, Dallas, TX 75275-0232.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Delaware, OH. Candidates should have experience in higher education in preparation for executive level position; significant success as a fund raiser; experience in/with admissions, development, public relations, or alumni/ae relations resulting in ability to supervise professional staff and make meaningful contributions in these areas; knowledgeable regarding the church and its mission and role in society. Experience in theological education desirable. Review of candidates begins Oct. 20 and continues until position is filled. Apply to President Norman E. Dewire, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, P.O. Box 1204, Delaware, OH 43015-0931. (614) 363-1146.

Director of Development, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Delaware, OH. Candidates should have experiences or training resulting in understanding of non-profit, higher education, and church organizations and their missions. Review of candidates begins Oct. 20 and continues until position is filled. Apply to President, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, P.O. Box 1204, Delaware, OH 43015-0931. (614) 363-1146.

Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson. Two positions, beginning Aug. 1995 (pending funding). Applicants from all disciplines are encouraged to apply. Review of applications begins Nov. 1. For more information, contact Women and Health Search Committee or Women, Sexualities, and Gender Search Committee, Women's Studies, Douglass 102, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. (602) 621-7338. FAX: (602) 621-1533.

Circuit Rider/United Methodist Resources Lead Editor, UMPublishing House, Nashville. Experience in ministry at the congregational level, knowledge of the history, doctrine, polity and trends in the UMC, the American religion environment, and theological education. Minimum three years' experience in magazine editing. Contact Cindy Knight, Employment Manager, United Methodist Publishing House, 201 Eighth Ave., South, P.O. Box 801, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 749-6443. ■



Largest group of new women cabinet members receive training

In August, 107 newly-appointed district superintendents and 14 new conference council directors, of whom 19 are women district superintendents and 5 are women conference council directors, gathered at Lake Junaluska, NC, for training. This number represents the largest number of women in either group in any year.

Sponsored by the Council of Bishops, the General Council on Ministries, and the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, the training event focused on roles, responsibilities, and skill development for new annual conference cabinet members. Stephanie Anna Hixon, member of the general secretariat of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, led the group in training on sexual harassment and sexual misconduct.

Among the new women district superintendents and conference council directors who attended a training event at Lake Junaluska, NC, in August are (pictured above), front row, from left to right, Cynthia Reynolds, North Indiana; Janice Riggle Huie, resource leader; Susan W.N. Ruach, conference council director, South Indiana; Yvonne B. Trueblood, South Indiana; L. Cecile Adams, conference council director, Detroit; Angelin J. Simmons, South Carolina.

Second row, Violet L. Fisher, Eastern Pennsylvania; Darline Balm-Demmel, Iowa; B. Ann Blair, Holston; Vicki Woods, New England; Mary Grey Emmett, Western Pennsylvania; C. Diane Watters, Kansas West; Shirley K. Cadle, West Ohio; Ardith Allread, California-Nevada.

Third row, Lomagrace Grenfell Stuart, conference council director, New England; Carolyn R. Waters, Nebraska; Deborah L. Fisher, Northern Illinois; Brenda G. West, Missouri West; Leslie N. Akin, conference

council director, Louisiana; and Donna Meinhard, Troy.

Other new district superintendents not pictured include Helga Hallett, West Virginia; Barbara E. Harper, North Alabama; Sue Owen-Bofferding, Oregon-Idaho; and Juanita Bass Wright, Tennessee.

Another new conference council director is Chris Spencer, Alaska Missionary. ■

Resources

Changing the Subject: Women's Discourses and Feminist Theology, Mary McClintock Fulkerson (Augsburg Fortress, 1994). Always the touchstone of feminist theologies, women's experience has itself recently become problematic. The author attempts to sketch an alternative account of relations of gender, power, and language, to vault the "experience" impasse and change the subject herself. Paper \$18.

Giving Birth: Reclaiming Biblical Metaphor for Pastoral Practice, Margaret L. Hammer (Westminster/John Knox, 1994). The book examines meanings attached to childbirth, how religious and social structures form the circumstances of childbearing, and how the experience of childbirth contributes to theology. Paper \$14.99.

VIDEOS

Dreams of Equality. A video commissioned by the National Park Service as part of a development project at the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, NY. A 27-minute documentary drama that chronicles the early struggles of the Women's Rights Movement, including the first Women's Rights Convention held in the summer of 1848. VHS \$95.00 purchase; \$50.00 rental. Available from Media Projects, Inc., 5215 Homer Street, Dallas, TX 75206. (214) 826-3863. (214) 826-3919.

Sexual Harassment 101. Produced by O.D.N. Productions, this video helps to clarify for both young men and young women, what sexual harassment is, provokes provocative discussion among students, and provides a platform for identifying school protocol students can follow. 30 minutes. Available for preview and review purposes. Price \$225. Select Media, Inc., 225 Lafayette St., Room 1102, New York, NY 10011. (212) 431-8923. FAX: (212) 431-8946.

Ovations

To **Marvin Abrams**, a Seneca pastor from La Mirada, CA, who has been named project coordinator of the Native American Comprehensive Plan, a four-year initiative intended to expand ministries of presence, to provide spiritual nurture and to train leaders among Native Americans across the nation. Abrams is a board member of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

To **Graciela Alvarez**, of Mexico City, who has been elected the first female bishop of the Methodist Church in Mexico.

To **Beatriz Ferrari De Arias**, an Argentinean laywoman, who has been elected president of the Methodist Church in Uruguay. She is married to Methodist Bishop Mortimer Arias.

To **Dale Hanson Borke**, who is the new publisher of Religious News Service.

To **Florence Fisackerly Brooks** of Richmond, VA, a 1994 graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., who received the \$250 Women in United Methodist History Writing Award from the General Commission on Archives and History for her paper "Burning Bushes: An Exploration of the Role of Virginia Methodists in the Education of Women in the 19th Century."

To **Ann Burnette**, director of music ministries for Emmanuel UMC in Memphis, TN, who has been named General Board of Discipleship director of music resources.

To **Joan Connell**, a nationally recognized religion and ethics writer, who has been named top executive of Religious News Service.

To **Carol Lakota Eastin**, a pastoral counselor in Peoria, IL, who recently became the first Native American woman endorsed as a chaplain in the UMC.

To **Donna Louise Farr**, former director of religious education for Main Post Chapel at Fort Leavenworth, KS, who has joined the Upper Room staff as director of spiritual formation for youth and families.

To **Dorothy Irene Height**, a United Methodist from Washington and New York, who was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to U.S. civilians. Height is a civil-rights advocate and president of the National Council of Negro Women since 1958.

To **Glorianna McClain**, fund officer for the Black College Fund, who began work Aug. 1 as executive assistant to Jim Salley, Africa University's assistant vice chancellor for development, based in Nashville.

To **Barbara A. Nissen**, a program developer and trainer for a drug-prevention center in Lincoln, NB, who has been named director of communications for the Nebraska Annual Conference.

To **Betty Thompson**, director of public relations for the General Board of Global Ministries, who was presented the William B. Lippard Award for distinguished service to religious journalism by the Associated Church Press. ■



Stoodly-West Fellowship accepting applications

The annual \$6,000 Stoodly-West Fellowship in Journalism is accepting applications for the 1995-1996 academic year. The award, presented by UM Communications, is offered in recognition of the professional competence and inspired service of Dr. Ralph Stoodly and Dr. Arthur West, leaders in public relations and Methodist information in the UMC from 1940-1975.

The grant will assist a Christian engaged in religious journalism, or one planning to enter this field, in taking graduate study at an

accredited school or department of journalism of his or her choice.

The purpose of the fellowship is to enhance the recipient's professional competence and thereby help to perpetuate the standards exemplified by Ralph Stoodly and Arthur West. Religious journalism is broadly interpreted to include audiovisual, electronic and print journalism.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to Fellowship Committee, UM Communications, Public Media Division, P.O. Box 320, Nashville, TN 37202. Deadline for mailing applications and supporting documents is Feb. 15, 1995. ■



The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

in the United Methodist Church

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