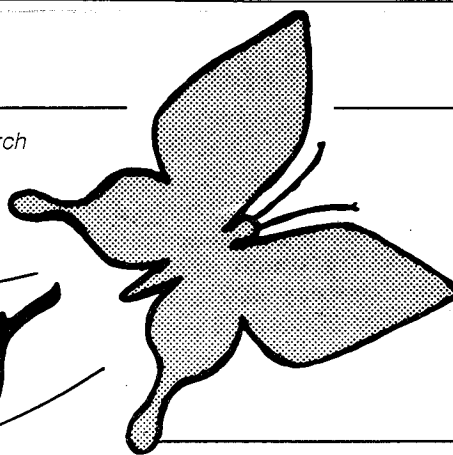


The Flyer



Vol XV, No. 4

Spring 1995

Most conferences now have sexual harassment policies

Of the 69 annual conferences in the U.S. and Puerto Rico, 56 have approved clergy sexual harassment or sexual misconduct policies, according to a recent survey conducted by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW).

The Commission conducted the survey in its role as monitor of the 1992 General Conference resolution calling for a sexual harassment policy for each annual conference, general agency, and United Methodist-related educational institution.

The results of a survey indicate that of the 13 remaining conferences, 10 have drafted policies awaiting approval. The survey also revealed that 50 annual conferences have offered training for cabinets, 52 for clergy, and 25 for laity.

The need for these policies continues to be great. Cecelia Long, member of the general secretariat of GCSRW, explains, "Our reports indicate that many annual conferences have grievances in process. In fact, very few, if any, have not dealt with clergy sexual misconduct grievances at some point."

For an assessment of the church's response to clergy sexual abuse, see the article "Peril in the Pulpit and Pew: Clergy sexual abuse and sexual misconduct threatens the safety of our churches," in the May issue of *Christian Social Action*, a publication of the General Board of Church and Society. The article was authored by GCSRW general secretariat member Stephanie Anna Hixon and *Flyer* editor Bonny Stalnaker Roth. ■

GCSRW meets in February: Planning continues on 1999 Women's Congress

The task force of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) working on preliminary planning for a Women's Congress for 1999 has developed goals for an event tentatively scheduled for April, 1999, during their meeting in conjunction with the GCSRW February meeting in Los Angeles.

A primary goal is to gather more than a thousand women, reflecting the diversity of the United Methodist Church, working to find strength and power to live into the 21st century. The process of the congress will focus on the development of Christian women leaders for the next century. When funding becomes available, the Commission

will select a design team and intends to work cooperatively with other boards and agencies.

Other action at the Feb. 23-26 meeting included ongoing Commission efforts to strengthen annual conference commissions. Jurisdictional conference calls are being planned for the Southeast and West members and staff. Commission executive staff will meet via telephone with annual conference chairs of CSRW to discuss concerns and strategies for electing women delegates to 1996 General Conference.

General secretariat members Cecelia Long and Stephanie Anna Hixon reported that they are working with California Pacific CSRW to develop a local church videotape on sexual harassment. Long and Hixon are not only assisting with scriptwriting, but will also be appearing in the video itself.

During one plenary session, the Commission discussed ways to facilitate studying

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District Supt. Beverly Shamana, addressing the conference.

Commission meeting offers multitude of connectional opportunities to all

"Connecting across the connection" might aptly have been a meeting theme for the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) at their spring meeting in Los Angeles, Feb. 23-26. Each day held important opportunities for experiencing the United Methodist connectional system at work.

Calif.-Pacific CSRW reception

At a reception hosted by California-Pacific Commission on the Status and Role of Women, General Commission members had an opportunity to learn more about the projects being undertaken by this annual conference commission.

Co-chairs Cynthia Abrams and Lynn Jackson, along with District Superintendent Beverly Shamana, outlined their work on behalf of women.

Friday evening at Wilshire UMC

United Methodist Women of Wilshire United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, along with their pastor and Commission member Lydia Salazar Martinez, hosted a Latino meal for Commission members. Commission members lifted their voices in a sing-along of Spanish language hymns and received presentations by leaders of three local social service agencies, two of which were founded by United Methodists.

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Special Supplement:
Resources to accompany
our journey

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Planning continues for 1999 Women's Congress continued from page 1

the UM bishops' paper "Biblical Wisdom and Current Theological Ferment." The document was produced last fall by the Council of Bishops as a result of its task force's inquiry into biblical Wisdom literature.

Bishop Jack Meadors, a member of the Commission from Mississippi, said that he believed the Spirit of God was present as the eight-member task force of bishops studied the Bible's wisdom literature as a part of the bishops' responsibility as teachers. "The oneness in the Council was absolutely providential," he told the other members of the Commission.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the document as a "gift to the church." Members agreed to promote study of the document through Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women.

Worship services provided important inspiration for the Commission's work. Lydia Salazar Martinez, Commission member and

pastor of nearby Wilshire United Methodist Church, served as liturgist and Lydia Jackson Waters, pastor of Compton Crossroads UMC, preached for the opening worship, including celebration of the Eucharist.

Commission members were particularly moved by the inclusion of ashes in the service, which had been collected from the Malibu fires; from a vacant lot from a trash fire lighted by folks sitting around it on old sofas under a palm tree; from the fireplace of a woman who is burned out from too many things to do; and from arson fires set by "Oso," the young gangster

from La Puente, who set trees afire in yards on twelve occasions. When the police finally



Members of Wilshire United Methodist Church, Los Angeles, lead a sing-along after preparing and serving dinner for GCSRW. Third from left is Lydia Salazar Martinez, GCSRW member and Wilshire UMC pastor.

arrested him, they cuffed him on the street face down. Then the squad car rolled over him (reportedly popped out of gear) and crushed him to death.

Sandy Olewine, associate pastor of Holman UMC, Los Angeles, led worship on Friday. ■

Connectional opportunities continued from page 1

"We were founded in 1906 as part of a Methodist Church in located in an old section of Los Angeles," proclaimed Gloria Ornelas, director of the family support center, Plaza Community Center in LA. Now located in East Los Angeles, the center includes a medical clinic, childcare for working families, and family preservation services to assist mothers trying to overcome substance abuse and women who have experienced physical neglect and abuse.

Says Ornelas, "The need for services is overwhelming. We have a four-page waiting list for the childcare center. If we opened two more tomorrow, we would be full in a week. The demand for counseling services is the same."

Estelle Chun, deputy director and staff attorney of Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, also explained a UMC connection. When it was founded 12 years ago, the center was located in a downtown United Methodist Church. In outlining the work of the agency, Chun emphasized the importance of initiatives to address poverty law problems such as immigration, family law related to domestic violence, and consumer concerns. The center is also monitoring the rising incidence of hate crimes.

Chun challenged Commission members to become more aware of domestic violence in their own communities and seek ways to help with women's shelters and to offer support groups.

The third presentation by Sora Park focused on the activities of Women's Organization Reaching Koreans (WORK). Park, president of the board of directors, pointed out yet another United Methodist connection: Tom Choi, liaison to the Commission from the General Council on Ministries, is a member of the WORK board.

WORK, which is staffed entirely by volunteers, is a non-profit education advocacy organization promoting socio-political issues and addressing injustices of concern to Korean American women. Monthly community forums help inform constituents about personal and community issues such as healthcare, childcare, violence against women, Korean comfort women, and concerns of the 1.5 generation, persons who were born in Korea but grew up in America.

Saturday work at two Shalom Zone ministry sites

A short bus-ride away from the Koreatown area of Los Angeles, where Commission members were meeting, were two Shalom Zone ministries of the United Methodist Church. Commission members divided into two groups to lend elbow grease and a tangible witness of support as they cleaned, painted and assisted with minor repairs at Nancy Green Child Development Center, housed at Epworth United Methodist Church, and Pico Union office facilities. (See photo feature on page 7.) ■

The Flyer

Spring 1995
Vol. XV, No. 4

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.

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General Secretariat:

Stephanie Anna Hixon/Cecelia Long

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Printed on recycled paper. ♻️

Status Report

Bailey surrenders credentials

Barry Bailey, former pastor of First United Methodist Church, Fort Worth, TX, surrendered his ministerial credentials in the United Methodist Church March 31, ending a nine-month investigation into allegations of sexual misconduct and avoiding a church trial.

Methodists Make News, April 7, 1995

Dean fired at SBC seminary

The dean of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's school of social work was fired March 20 after telling students that new standards instituted by the seminary's president will make it impossible to hire qualified faculty.

President Albert Mohler—a key figure in the fundamentalist reshaping of the Southern Baptist Convention—asked for the resignation of Diana Garland, dean of the Carver School of Social Work, after Garland told a student forum that Carver's future is "in serious jeopardy" and accreditation by the council of Social Work Education threatened.

The dispute arose over the nomination of David Sherwood to a new tenure-track faculty position at Carver, the nation's only accredited seminary-based social-work school. Mohler said he rejected Sherwood on the basis of "the candidate's views on the service of women in the pastorate." Although fired as dean, Garland remains on the seminary faculty.

Garland's firing as dean appears to reinforce the claim that the Carver school may not survive. Garland informed students that even Mohler told her the school would not

survive her resignation. In a meeting with students Mohler said he does not want to kill the Carver School, but noted that "the culture of social work and the culture of theological education are not congruent."

Christian Century, April 5, 1995

Top financial executive says he will step down

Clifford Droke, general secretary of the general Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA), informed the GCFA Budget and Personnel Committee that he will be asking Bishop Melvin G. Talbert (California Nevada) for a new appointment.

Droke told *Newscope* he expects to work with the council in the transition period. He was elected for the quadrennium, a term that expires with the 1996 General Conference.

In August, Droke and the GCFA were sued for \$500,000 by Craig R. Hoskins, a former employee. Hoskins, the agency's general counsel from 1979 until his dismissal May 16, 1994, alleged that he was fired after he objected to his boss's "heavy consumption of alcohol," "alcohol-related behavior," and "inappropriate" conduct toward female employees.

Bishop Forrest C. Stith (New York), GCFA president, told UM New Service that a GCFA litigation team is "continuing its attempt to bring resolution outside the court system to the suit. At the same time," he continued, "the lawyers are awaiting several rulings by the judge involved in the case as to the appropriateness of the charges."

Newscope, March 10, 1995

Eastern Pennsylvania clergy-women earn less than men

Women clergy in Eastern Pennsylvania Conference earn less than men regardless of the number of years of ministry. Men who have served over 21 years make an average of \$31,628, while women with the same experience make only \$26,185. Men with 15-20 years' experience make \$25,730, while women make \$25,089; men with 11-14 years, \$25,340, women \$24,098; men with 6-10 years, \$23,094, women \$22,188; and men, 0-5, \$19,938, women, \$19,372.

The study of 355 men and 56 women also found that only one woman served a church with over 200 in average attendance. Salaries of the top eight men in appointments beyond the local church (32.1 service year average) averaged \$66,483; women in the same category (17.5 service year average) averaged \$41,680. The conference includes one woman bishop, three women superintendents, and one clergywoman and two laywomen on executive staff.

Susan Hassinger,
Eastern Pennsylvania Reporter

Retired clergy surrenders credentials

A retired clergymember of the Baltimore Washington Conference has surrendered his credentials following charges that he had sexual encounters with an 11-year-old boy some 20 years ago. Harry B. Miles was indicted Jan. 19 following charges by a 34-year-old Gaithersburg man who alleged that

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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.

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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) _____

Ovations

To **Lottie Lynn Bash**, a junior pre-law student at Millsaps College, who has received the first \$500 Allan Jerome Burry Award, in honor of this staff member of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry's campus ministry section.

To **Polly Lassiter Cook**, Miami, who was presented a Lee and Mae Ball Award by the Methodist Federation for Social Action for commitment to ecology, service in campus ministry, and the Tampa UM Center.

To **Susan Henry-Crowe**, Emory University chaplain and a clergy member of the South Carolina Annual Conference, who has received the Alumni Service Award from Candler School of Theology during Candler's 60th annual Ministers' Week.

To **Mary Ann Haxton**, Springfield, IL, who was installed as co-president of Methodist Federation for Social Action, joining Dan Leach Walters in that position.

To **Carol Herb**, retired editor of Response magazine and a journalist who served The United Methodist Church for 35 years, who was inducted into the United Methodist Association of Communicators' Hall of Fame Nov. 18, 1994.

To **Waymon Hollis**, member of GCSRW, who has been named conference council director of North Arkansas Conference.

To **Kristen J. Leslie**, Adrian, MI, and **Mary J. Sims-Baden**, Shenandoah University, VA, both campus ministers who received the 1995-96 Baker Graduate Awards for doctoral studies.

To **Sophie Low** of Cerritos, CA, who has received the 1995 Theresa Hoover Community Service and Global Citizen Award to work as a volunteer with a municipal crisis center in Monterrey, Mexico.

To **Karen Ott**, a professor at the University of Evansville (IN) and a member of Trinity UMC in Evansville, who was chosen 1995's Outstanding Educator at a UM-related school by the UM Foundation for Christian Higher Education. **Ethel W. Born**, a member of the board of governors of Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., was awarded the foundation's Stanley S. Kresge Award. **Carolyn Warner**, head of a consulting and lecturing service in Phoenix, will head the foundation.

To **Susan Graves Parker**, a staff reporter for the International News Group, Rockville, MD, who is the 1995-96 recipient of the \$6,000 Stooddy-West Fellowship for graduate study in religious journalism.

To **Mia K. Shanley**, an Asian-American Catholic from Bakersfield, CA, who is the

winner of the 1995-96 \$2,500 Leonard M. Perryman Communications Award for Ethnic Minority Students.

To **Kyung-Lim Shin-Lee**, who has been appointed vice president for church relations and student development of Wesley Theological Seminary. She is the first Korean woman to hold the position of vice president in a mainline denominational seminary.

To **Mary Kercherval Short**, former liaison to the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women and executive secretary for women's concerns and Christian Social relations in the Washington office of the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries, who has been named head of the board's service center in Cincinnati. ■



Nominations sought for Circuit Rider Award

The General Board of Publication is now accepting nominations for the Circuit Rider Award, which recognizes an individual(s) who has made a highly significant contribution to membership and attendance growth in a United Methodist Church and/or Sunday school in the U.S. and Puerto Rico.

Nomination letters must be postmarked no later than June 25, 1995, to be eligible for the 1995 award. To request a nomination form and further details, contact Circuit Rider Award, Attn: Walter H. McKelvey, P.O. Box 801, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 749-6327.

General Conference petition deadlines announced

Petitions for General Conference, to be held April 16-26, 1996, in Denver, must be "postmarked by a national postal service" by Dec. 17, 1995, or must arrive by other means not later than Jan. 16, 1996, according to the *Book of Discipline*, paragraph 608.

Petitions, addressing only one paragraph of the Discipline or one issue, are to be typed double spaced, in triplicate and sent to Ms. Odell Thompson, 1740 Sixth St., Beloit, WI 53511.

Inquiries invited for General Conference pages/marshalls

Persons wishing to serve as pages or marshalls at the April 16-26, 1996 United Methodist General Conference in Denver may write to General Conference, General Council on Finance and Administration, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. ■

Jobs

Please contact employer, when possible, to confirm status of search process.

Assistant General Secretary, Health Benefits, General Board of Pension and Health Benefits, Evanston, IL. Health insurance background required. Business administration/employee benefits and/or experience in health care delivery knowledge preferred. Contact Ruth Yohanan, GBPHB, 1201 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 866-4552.

Assistant General Secretary in Administration, Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministry, New York City. Coordinating/implementing all executive administrative functions for Women's Division, both in headquarters and field. UMC membership mandatory, UMW membership desirable. Minimum 5 years' experience in executive administration at national level. For application and job description, contact Human Resources Department, GBGM, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 1476, New York, NY 10015. (212) 870-3666. Fax: (212) 870-3834.

Professor of Old Testament Interpretation, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL. Highly effective classroom teaching, significant publication record, and broad competence in OT interpretation. Teaching responsibilities begin Sept. 1996. Position may be combined with leadership in a program center of the seminary. Applications received until Oct. 1 or until position is filled. Send application and three references to Dean Rosemary Keller, G-ETS, 2121 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 866-3903.

Director of Church Ministries Education, Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta. Direct Emory Course of Study School; the School of New Congregational Development; and Candler Lay Theology Institute, Continuing Education Program, and Diaconal Studies Program. Master of Divinity or equivalent, ordained or diaconal UM minister. Apply to Dean R. Kevin LaGree, Candler School of Theology, 202 Bishops Hall, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322. (404) 727-6342. ■

Copy deadlines To ensure inclusion of job announcements, calendar and other items in upcoming issue of **The Flyer**, please submit written details to the editor by Aug. 1 for the Fall 1995 issue and by November 1 for the Winter 1995 issue. Send to: Bonny Stalnaker Roth, GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 869-7330. FAX: (708) 869-1466.

RESOURCES TO ACCOMPANY OUR JOURNEY

Here is a wrap-up of 1994 resources selected from the Fall 1994 South of the Garden Book Catalog, published by Resource Center for Women and Ministry in the South, 331 W. Main St., Suite 608, Durham, NC 27701. (919) 687-0408.

On feminist and womanist theology

Awake, Arise, and Act: A Womanist Call for Black Liberation, Marcia Y. Riggs (Pilgrim, 1994). Riggs explores the late nineteenth and early twentieth century black women's club movement as a deep, rich source of wisdom and strength and as a model for approaching the crisis in black America today. \$12.95.

Encountering God: A Spiritual Journey from Bozeman to Banaras, Diana Eck (Beacon, 1994). This Harvard professor of religion takes us on a journey from her native Bozeman, Montana to Banaras, India to share with us her profound respect for the many and varied religious traditions of the world. \$14.00.

The Fall to Violence: Original Sin in Relational Theology, Marjorie H. Suchocki (Continuum, 1994). This feminist process theologian understands the underlying root of "sin" is not pride but violence. For her, forgiveness is the active willing of the well-being of victim and violator. Hardback \$18.95.

The Feminine Dimension of the Divine, Joan Chamberlain Engelsman (Chiron, 1994). This study of Sophia and feminine images in religion, first published in 1979, now contains a new preface and introduction by the author. \$14.95.

Feminist Theology from the Third World: A Reader, ed. Ursula King (Orbis, 1994). This exciting and comprehensive anthology contains voices from every part of the globe, including Chung Hyun Kyung of Korea, Delores Williams of the U.S., Mercy Amba Oduyoye of Ghana and others. \$19.95.

Jesus: Miriam's Child, Sophia's Prophet: Issues in Feminist Christology, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza (Continuum, 1994). This scholar uses a feminist perspective to re-image the Jesus movement. She also confronts problems such as Christian Anti-Judaism, ideological justification of domination, religion exclusivism, and patriarchal identity-formations. \$19.95.

Of a Woman Born: A Bishop Rethinks the Virgin Birth and the Treatment of Women by a Male-Dominated Church, John Shelby Spong (Harper, 1994). Spong argues, "the virgin of a literal Bible, the virgin of the Annunciation, Bethlehem and the manger, corrupted by the years of an overlaid male theology, will have to go." \$10.00.

RE-Imagining Conference (*Church & Society*, May/June, 1994). This issue reprints eight speeches from the RE-Imagining Conference, held in Minneapolis in Nov. 1993, and includes comments by conference chair Sally Hill and others. \$3.50. Also available are 24 90-minute cassettes from the conference that include music, major presentations, main panels. \$60.00.

A Singing Something: Womanist Reflections on Anna Julia Cooper, Karen Baker-Fletcher (Crossroad, 1994). This study of a foremother of the womanist movement places Cooper in the context of African-American religious and social history. \$19.95.

Sunday School Manifesto: In the Image of Her?, Elizabeth Dodson Gray (Roundtable, 1994). What would the church look like if it took feminist theology seriously? The author says the church must become woman-affirming if it is ever to be life-affirming for children today. \$14.95.

That They May Be Many, Ann Kirkus Wetherilt (Continuum, 1994). By insisting on the radical multiplicity of human experience, this feminist theologian suggests "voices" rather than "word" as the metaphor for divine revelation. \$19.95.

On feminist biblical scholarship

From Eve to Esther: Rabbinic Reconstructions of Biblical Women, Leila Leah Bronner (Westminster, 1994). This book maps the attitudes of ancient rabbis toward significant feminine figures in Hebrew Scriptures. \$18.99

Images of Faith: Spirituality of Women in the Old Testament, Judette A. Gallares (Orbis, 1994). The stories of women in the Hebrew scriptures are recalled and compared with the stories of contemporary women of faith, particularly in the Third World. Suggestions for further reflection, prayer, and action are included. \$10.95.

In Memory of Her: A Feminist Theological Reconstruction of Christian Origins, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza (Crossroad, 1994). The Tenth Anniversary edition of this landmark feminist work on the New Testament includes a new introduction. \$17.95.

Not Counting Women and Children: Neglected Stories from the Bible, Megan McKenna (Orbis, 1994). An acclaimed storyteller turns to the overlooked and often unnamed people whose stories in the Hebrew and Christian scriptures reveal the depths of God's love, especially for the poor. \$10.95.

Out of the Garden: Women Writers on the Bible, ed. Christina Buchmann and Celina Spiegel (Fawcett, 1994). Essays and stories by women writers (rather than Biblical scholars) cover a wide range of topics. Includes Louise Erdrich, Ursula K. LeGuin, June Jordan, Kathleen Norris, and more. Hardback \$23.00.

Putting Away Childish Things: The Virgin Birth, the Empty Tomb, Hell, and Other Fairy Tales You Don't Need to Believe to Have a Living Faith, Uta Ranke-Heinemann (Harper, 1994). The author seeks to rid Christian faith of the unauthentic and sexist cultural baggage that hinders a true encounter with the revolutionary message of Jesus. Hardback \$24.00.

Reading Ruth: Contemporary Women Reclaim a Sacred Story, ed. Judith A. Kates and Gail Twersky Reimer (Ballantine, 1994). Essays, poems, fiction, and memoirs of thirty women offer new perspectives on this timeless story. Writers include poets, novelists, playwrights, professors of women studies and religion, a rabbi, and psychologists. Hardback \$23.00.

Searching the Scriptures Volume I: A Feminist Introduction, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza (Crossroad, 1993). This volume, published in honor of the centennial of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's *The Women's Bible*, charts a course between rejecting scriptures as patriarchal and picking out only what suits feminism. It sets the stage for the commentary in Volume II. Hardback \$29.95.

Searching the Scriptures Volume II: A Feminist Commentary, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza (Crossroad, 1994). Under the direction of the author, scholars from several continents give fresh meaning to the scriptures. This comprehensive work is inclusive, ecumenical, and multicultural in approach and offers critical feminist interpretation of the commentary on scripture. Hardback \$35.00.

Women and Jesus in Mark: A Japanese Feminist Perspective, Hisako Kinukawa (Orbis, 1994). Stories of encounters between Jesus and women in Mark challenge patriarchal structures of the day and demonstrate the most fully liberating implications of the gospel. \$15.95.

On worship and preaching

Experiences of Women Who Preach: Beginning a Conversation, Virginia Purvis-Smith (RCWMS, 1994). Personal stories, the reflections of other women who preach, and critical analysis make this

continued on page 6

RESOURCES TO ACCOMPANY OUR JOURNEY *continued from page 5*

a very useful beginning to a conversation on women and preaching. \$5.00.

Laughter, Silence, and Shouting: An Anthology of Women's Prayers, Kathy Keay (Harper, 1994). The prayers in this international collection were written by women for women. They range in origin from Celtic tradition to modern-day feminist theology and are useful for public worship or personal meditation. Hardback \$15.00.

Worshipping Women: Re-Forming God's People for Praise, Heather Murray Elkins (abingdon, 1994). This creative feminist Christian liturgist offers guidelines for revitalizing worship by using the resources of women's experience. This collection, which includes pieces of tradition, new material, and commentary, covers such topics as baptism, feasting, godsipping (the voicing of God's wisdom), and early Christianity. \$14.95.

On spiritual journey

Dakota: A Spiritual Geography, Kathleen Norris (Houghton Mifflin, 1993). Norris returns to her roots in South Dakota to close up her grandmother's house and decides to stay. She comes to understand the land and the people from which she sprang and reflects on how landscape affects personality and imagination and what it means to be committed to a place. \$9.95.

Defecting in Place: Women Claiming Responsibility for Their Own Spiritual Lives, Miriam Therese Winter, Adair Lummis, and Allison Stokes (Crossroad, 1994). This book provides a forum for the voices of women who are taking responsibility for their own spiritual

lives while remaining active in the church. It explores the role feminist spirituality groups play in the decisions of these women to remain affiliated with institutional religion while redefining church and spirituality on their own terms. Hardback \$22.95.

Keys to the Open Gate: A Woman's Spirituality Sourcebook, Kimberley Snow (Conari, 1994). Over 100 readings from spiritual leaders and writers such as Brooke Medicine Eagle, Lynn Andrews, Thich Nhat Hanh, and Marianne Williamson. \$12.95.

The Reinvention of Work: A New Vision of Livelihood for Our Time, Matthew Fox (Harper, 1994). Fox sees work as part of creation and is interested in restoring mystical qualities to work and eliminating compulsive and harmful work. \$22.00.

Songs of Miriam: A Women's Book of Devotions, ed. Mary L. Mild (Judson, 1994). This devotional book for women of faith who serve the church is written by women for women. The poetry and prose cover issues such as relationships, childbirth and our creation in the image of God. \$7.00.

A Woman's Guide to Spiritual Renewal, Nelly Kaufer & Carol Osmer-Newhouse (Harper, 1994). In this practical resource, two professionals in psychology and spirituality show women how to heal old wounds, learn from the past, and develop a healthy spiritual life. \$14.00.

Women in Praise of the Sacred: 43 Centuries of Spiritual Poetry by Women, ed. Jan Hirshfield (Harper, 1994). This collection, edited by a poet, begins with the Hymn to Inanna of 2300 B.C.E. and continues through the modern era. A wonderful resource for worship, ritual, or meditation. \$22.50. ■

Status Report *continued from page 3*

Miles had 50 sexual encounters with him between 1971 and 1976.

Church members had problems reconciling the allegations with their experiences. Mary West Emory, Christian education coordinator at Oakdale-Emory UMC, said Miles brought in an average of 100 new members a year and worked round the clock for the church. An "intervention team" is helping the congregation deal with their feelings.

Newscope, Feb. 3, 1995

Fulkerson granted tenure

A feminist criticized by a male colleague in mailings to UM clergy in North Carolina has received tenure at Duke Divinity School in Durham. Mary McClintock Fulkerson became the second tenured woman at the seminary despite Professor Lloyd Bailey's effort to have UMs speak out against her feminist views and her alleged support for homosexuals.

Bailey was accused of violating campus rules about confidentiality in a mass mailing attacking Fulkerson and the school. He has agreed not to continue teaching and is expected to remain on leave until he retires in 1998.

The News and Observer of Raleigh re-

ported in October that Bailey criticized Fulkerson's participation in a "public" homosexual-rights event and questioned a classroom exercise in which he alleged Fulkerson had students dance in a circle and pray to a goddess.

Newscope, Jan. 20, 1995

Ecumenical student conference attacked by IRD

A recent ecumenical student conference has been attacked as "a form of religious malpractice" by Mark Tooley of the Institute on Religion and Democracy (IRD). He says speakers included feminist theologian Rita Nakashima Brock, a professor at Hamline University in St. Paul, MN, and a speaker at the RE-Imagining Conference, and Edwina Gateley, a Roman Catholic lay author who "has challenged her church's teachings about the deity of Christ and about homosexuality."

Tooley accused the UMC and eight other denominations of sponsoring a "celebration of neo-pagan silliness and intemperate politics."

Don Shockley, UM campus ministry executive, told *Newscope* the IRD statement is more revealing in what it doesn't say. "Tooley doesn't talk about the inspirational address

by James Forbes, the fact that we gave Bibles to all participants, the watch-night service, and the UM gathering with a contemporary Christian band."

Shockley said Tooley's quotations from Brock were taken from her writings, not from what she said at the St. Louis student meeting.

Newscope, Jan. 20, 1995

RE-Imagining group outside church, Good News charges

A "RE-Imagining Community," created following the controversial November 1993 RE-Imagining Conference in Minneapolis, has "moved outside the parameters of the Christian Church," according to the Board of Directors of Good News, the church's evangelical caucus headquartered in Wilmore, KY.

Meeting there Jan. 25-27, the board charged the new group accepts teachings that deny foundational Christian doctrines. Good News board members expressed concern that some United Methodist clergy and staff are involved with the ecumenical, independent RE-Imagining Community, based in Minneapolis.

Methodists Make News, Jan. 10, 1995 ■

Los Angeles meeting

GCSRW works with Shalom Zone ministries



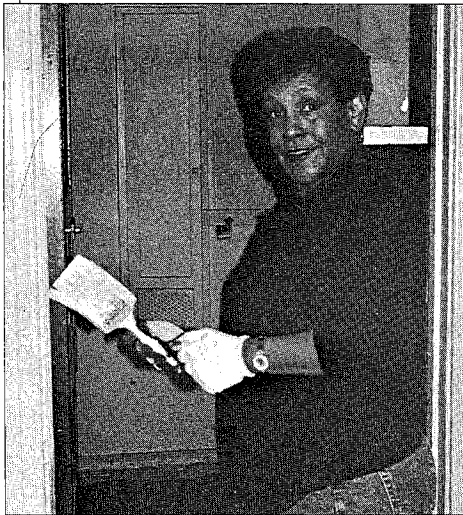
These photographs were taken during the September meeting of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women in Los Angeles as Commission members cleaned, repaired, and painted at two Shalom Zone ministries of the United Methodist Church: Nancy Green Child Development Center, housed at Epworth United Methodist Church, and Pico Union office facilities.

◀ Commission members work with Pico Union volunteers to paint and repair a house to be used as office space adjacent to the Pico Union Head Start building/sanctuary.



▲ Commission member Diane Ousley cleans windows at Nancy Green Development Center.

Geneva Dalton, liaison to the Commission from the General Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, paints inside the Pico Union office project. ▼



◀ Commission members Margie Titus (standing) and Barbara Gurtler scrape the exterior of the Pico Union office project.

Commission members paint over graffiti on wall at Pico Union project. ▼



▲ Commission member Joyce Waldon Bright, left, discusses United Methodist Women funding possibilities with Elsie Waithe, Nancy Green Development Center board member and district president of United Methodist Women.



Calendar

June 22-25

Is Nothing Sacred? A retreat for women survivors of clergy sexual abuse. Presented by The Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence, led by Marie Fortune. Contact Kirkridge Retreat Center, Bangor, PA. (215) 588-1793.

June 25-28

Trainers' Workshop on Clergy Misconduct. Prepares participants to deal with clergy misconduct and to educate others about this. Presented by the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence. Contact Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville, TN. (615) 340-7472.

June 26-30

Women's and Men's Spiritualities: Seeking Common Ground. This course will explore both the divergences and commonalities in women's and men's issues and stories. Led by Christie Cozad Neuger and James Neison. Contact Auburn Theological Seminary, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027. (800) 818-2911.

July 13-16

Bound for the Promised Land, Minneapolis. Fourth national convocation of Reconciling Congregations. Speakers include Dr. Mel White and Dr. Toinette Eugene. Contact Mark Bowman, 3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago, IL 60641. (312) 736-5526.

July 14-16

Power Equity and Groups Workshop, Portland, OR. An experiential workshop on working in non-hierarchical, collegial groups where diversity is appreciated and sought. Contact Carol Pierce, Equity Associates, 21 Shore Drive, Laconia, NH 02136. (603) 524-1441.

July 19-21

Power Equity and Groups Workshop, Boston. An experiential workshop on working in non-hierarchical, collegial groups where diversity is appreciated and sought. Contact Carol Pierce, Equity Associates, 21 Shore Drive, Laconia, NH 02136. (603) 524-1441.

July 27-30

A Time to Plant...A Time to Heal: Dialogues in the Wisdom Tradition, Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville. Using the UM Council of Bishops report, the conference will focus on Wisdom in church history, theology, and ethical issues. Among the leaders are Bishop Sharon Rader and Bishop Ken Carder. Scholars include Sharon Hels, Toinette Eugene, Ted Campbell, and Deidra Kriewald. Contact Judy Loehr, director of spiritual formation and worship, Scarritt-Bennett Center, 1008 Nineteenth Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37212-2166. (615) 340-7489.

Aug. 7-11

Women of Spirit: Transformed & Transforming, Atlanta. 1995 International UM Clergywomen's Consultation. Contact Clergywomen Registrar, AM&E, Suite 107, 4428 Taggart Creek Rd., Charlotte, NC 28208. (800) 993-8050. FAX (704) 399-8005.

Aug. 24-27

Basecamp Seattle. An international conference accessible to all women, directly preceding the UN 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. For registration and information, call the Basecamp hotline (206) 688-8816.

Aug. 30-Sept. 8

UN World Conference on Women and NGO Forum '95, Beijing, China. Contact NGO Forum Planning Committee, 211 E. 43rd. St., Suite 1500, NY, NY 10017. (212) 922-9267.

Sept. 8-9

Time Out to Tune In, Lisle, IL. An ecumenical retreat for clergywomen and lay women. Contact Eleanor Hayes for brochure: (708) 665-6827.

Sept. 29-Oct. 1

Power Equity and Groups Workshop, Gloucester, VA. An experiential workshop on working in non-hierarchical, collegial groups where diversity is appreciated and sought. Contact Carol Pierce, Equity Associates, 21 Shore Drive, Laconia, NH 02136. (603) 524-1441.

Oct. 20-21

Weekend with Virginia Ramey Mollenkott. Contact Resource Center for Women and Ministry in the South, 331 W. Main St., Suite 608, Durham, NC 27701. (919) 687-0408.

Oct. 20-21

Dialogue with Bishop Leontine T.C. Kelly: The Future of Women in the UMC. Wesley UMC, Urbana, IL. An opportunity, sponsored by Central Illinois Commission on the Status and Role of Women, to reflect upon women in the UMC and to dialogue about where we go from here to build a truly inclusive body of Christ. Contact Marlene Cummins, P.O. Box 515, Bloomington, IL 61702-0515. (309) 828-5092.

Nov. 10-12

Women's Ordination Conference: Discipleship of Equals. Celebrating 20 years of WOC and 2000 years of struggle in Arlington, VA. Advance registration due July 1: WOC Gathering '95, Women's Ordination Conference, P.O. Box 2693, Fairfax, VA 22031. FAX: (703) 352-1006. ■



**The General Commission on the
Status and Role of Women**

in the United Methodist Church

1200 Davis Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201