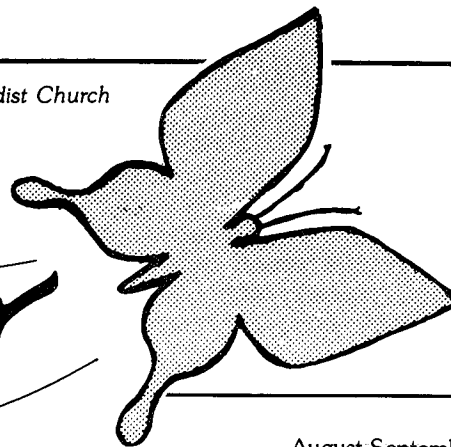


The Flyer



Volume VIII, No. 3

August-September 1986

Highlight 30 Years Women's Ordination

Celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the ordination of clergywomen highlighted Annual Conference events sponsored by conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women (CSRWs). Monitoring inclusiveness of language and persons continued to be a CSRW focus, as did training opportunities, mealtime gatherings, displays, buttons, and treasured "yellow ribbons."

Celebrating 30 years

ACCSRWs found a multiplicity of ways to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women:

A ten-minute narrative and interpretive movement in memory and recognition of clergywomen was included in a morning worship service in the **Alabama-West Florida CSRW**.

Regional Events

"Claiming Our Connections, Empowering One Another" will be the theme for three regional training events to be held by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women in 1987. Leadership will be provided by Carolyn Henninger Oehler, Northern Illinois Conference Council Director and past president of the GCSRW, and Forrest Stith, Bishop of the North Central New York Conference and a current member of the GCSRW. Dates and places are as follows:

Jan. 16-18 San Pedro Center, Winter Park (near Orlando) FL

Jan. 23-25 Gilmary Retreat Center, Corapolis (near Pittsburg) PA

Mar. 27-29 Foothill Conference Center, Morrison (near Denver) CO

For more information write the GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201.

Judy McCartney, chair of the **East Ohio CSRW**, speaking from the Annual Conference floor, recognized 30 years of women in the ordained ministry by asking clergywomen to stand by year of ordination. The 30-year theme was carried over in the CSRW display with 30 photos of ordained women from throughout the conference and a brochure, "So you're getting a woman minister — congratulations!"

A service of worship, with Martha Rowlett, a CCOM staff member of the **California-Pacific AC**, preaching, highlighted the **Holston** 30th anniversary celebration. Flyers listing the names of clergywomen and churches served by clergywomen were distributed. Buttons, featuring a "30," woman and cross, and the words "Claiming God's Call," were made and distributed to 100 persons.

A CSRW luncheon in the **Louisiana** Annual Conference celebrated 30 years of ordination. Two women being ordained elder were honored, and the video, "One Fine Day," shown. The banner from the luncheon was presented to the bishop during the next day's session.

The focus of the **Louisville CSRW** at Annual Conference was the 30th anniversary. A booklet containing pictures and biographical sketches of all conference clergywomen was distributed to delegates. About 40 persons attended the CSRW Women in Ministry dinner, and several conference clergywomen led a worship service celebrating the anniversary.

All the clergywomen in the **North Alabama CSRW** were recognized and honored at a morning worship service and took part in leading a litany on peace to commemorate the 30th anniversary.

A CSRW window display with books about clergywomen celebrated the 30th anniversary at the **North Indiana AC**.

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Celebrating Life: First UMC Woman Bishop Dies

Bishop Marjorie Matthews, 69, the first woman elected a bishop in the United Methodist Church, died June 30 after a long battle with cancer. On July 17, 1980, Matthews, then a district superintendent in the West Michigan conference, was elected bishop in the North Central Jurisdiction, the first woman bishop in a major religious body. She served the Wisconsin Area for four years, then retired in 1984. Matthews was ordained an elder in 1965 at the age of 49, following 17 years employment with an auto parts manufacturer.

Judy McCartney, chairperson of the East Ohio Commission on the Status and Role of Women, was present at the funeral service for Matthews July 3. "The Flyer" thanks her for her reflections.

by Judy McCartney

I was almost as surprised at finding myself on the way to Alma, Michigan for a memorial service for Bishop Marjorie Matthews as I had been six years earlier to be present at the historic moment when she was elected to the episcopacy. For both events it was connections to other persons which drew me to the scene. Though committed in a rational way to the Christian feminist view, I had not allowed my emotions to bind me too securely to feminism or to Marjorie Matthews.

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Opening 'Images of God' in Local Churches

"The arts have charms to soothe the savage chauvinist, to expand limited images and language where logical argument alone fails. Arts can change hearts."

—Rev. Elton Brown, pastor, Prospect Park UMC, Minneapolis, MN

Take a booklet designed to help local churches move beyond male-dominated language about God. Add a songwriter and a local church Christian feminist group. Bring them together. And the result? A musical, "Images of God," that is opening hearts and minds in Minnesota.

The project began with the Minnesota CSRW's publication of "Expanding Images," a booklet by Rev. Sue Zabel designed to help local church worship committees and pastors by providing a scriptural rationale for moving beyond male-dominated language about God. A member of the CSRW, Don Arnold, conceived of the next step: a musical which would communicate the booklet's ideas. In response to his request, Kay Shroder-Hacklander, author of several musicals, composed ten songs, each employing a different contemporary musical style.

The musical sat on paper for a year. Then Shroder-Hacklander moved to Minneapolis, and was invited to a meeting of the Prospect Park "Feminism and Christianity" group, a four-year-old women's group which had evolved from a study group into a circle of support, friendship and spiritual growth.

With Shroder-Hacklander directing, a group of 20 women from the church at large began rehearsals; the youngest member was a high school junior, the eldest nearly 60.

The group's three performances: at the church's Mother's Day morning service, Minnesota Annual Conference evening vespers, and Minnesota School of Christian Missions, received enthusiastic praise, reported Elton Brown, pastor of Prospect Park UMC.

As testimony to the musical's effectiveness, Brown tells of one man, in attendance at the Annual Conference seminar on the proposed new United Methodist hymnal, who spoke several times in anger at proposed language changes. "He told us that the Lord's Prayer does not begin with 'Our Mother' and that 'everyone understands that "mankind" means "men and women." ' That same man, however, attended 'Images of God' later that night and was overheard to say on his way out, 'That was wonderful!' ..."

The Prospect Park women are considering requests for additional performances. They are also looking for a publisher for the musical. A video-tape is available for \$15 from Camelot Productions, 2205 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404.

Making a Difference:

(Cont. from pg. 1)

The entire **South Carolina** Annual Conference was a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women. The conference established a scholarship fund in honor of the late Bessie Parker, who served as a local elder before clergy rights were granted; the fund will aid women seeking ordination. An offering taken at the close of the session netted \$1,835. Major services were led by women (see Ovarions, page 5). Reported CSRW chair Barbara Boultinghouse: "In the planning stages, there was opposition to having women be responsible for major leadership roles. One DS asked, 'Aren't you afraid of "overkill"?' I assured him none of us had been killed in the past."

In **Virginia** the CSRW celebrated both its 10th anniversary and the 30th anniversary of the ordination of clergywomen with a report, platform presentation and CSRW display. Plans were announced for a collection of original materials to be published in 1987 and dedicated to the 30th anniversary observance.

Clergywomen in leadership

Clergywomen continued to make gains at Annual Conferences, in leadership, visibility and numbers.

Reported Carol Burnett, chair of the **Mississippi** CSRW: "The largest number of clergywomen in Mississippi has been five until this year. At our Annual Conference we had a clergywomen's lunch, including women seminary students, and our numbers totalled 12! We were delighted. Four women were ordained deacon this year, and eight women will be serving pastoral appointments in our conference. This large increase is exciting for us and will certainly help us move faster toward breaking down the barriers and opposition to women in ministry."

The **Missouri West AC** approved cross-gender and cross-racial appointment exchanges beginning January 1987 for a six-week period and extending according to needs.

An equitable appointment study by the **North Indiana** CSRW that documented "consistent discrimination in the appointment process against women clergy" was referred to the cabinet with instructions to report to the 1987 conference on steps taken to alleviate the discrepancies found by the studies. The study, the third since 1980, showed the same "gross inequities in appointments for clergywomen at every level and for spouses of clergywomen under appointment." "We had an excellent and spirited presentation, with surprisingly fervent lay support for the resolution," reported Mary Kendzora, North Indiana CSRW chair.

In the **South Indiana AC**, sixty second bits about clergy couples and clergywomen

were interspersed throughout conference sessions. At one time, all clergy couples and clergywomen were introduced on stage.

Clergywomen received recognition at the **West Virginia** Annual Conference, with honors for the second woman district superintendent and three women pastors named district "Pastor of the Year."

Women in leadership

Women across the board gained visibility and leadership at 1986 Annual Conference sessions and in worship.

Leadership at the **Iowa** legislative sessions was shared equally among women and men: each of the six sessions was led by a woman and a man, with three chaired by women with male secretaries and three chaired by men with female secretaries.

A conversation with the Bishop following last year's **North Alabama** Annual Conference about more inclusiveness in worship yielded results, reported CSRW chair Ann Lohr. Women were more visible in worship and Bible study leadership. This year the conference asked the bishop to work toward more inclusiveness in all levels of church leadership, including the cabinet.

Melinda Campbell Jones, chair of the **North Georgia** CSRW, gave the opening devotion on the first full day of conference sessions and was "well received," she reported. "No attention was drawn to my chairing of CSRW, but certainly the hierarchy is aware of this fact. The North Georgia CSRW did not sponsor any legislation or resolutions at this Annual Conference. Nor did we conduct any monitoring. These types of actions would not seem to fit our committee or our conference at this particular point in time."

Women were featured prominently at the **Northern Illinois** Annual Conference: Kay Dillard and Carol Corey preached, Conference Council Director Carolyn Henninger Oehler reported for the Council on Ministry, chair Linda Wilke reported for the Council on Finance and Administration, cabinet dean Sandy Hoke gave the superintendent's composite, and missions worker Peggy Hutchison spoke briefly at the CSRW dinner. In addition, Doris Rudy serves as conference lay leader, Jane Holmes as conference secretary, and Louise Mahan as chair of the conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

The **North Texas** CSRW, through floor nomination, managed to place two clergywomen on the board of trustees, bringing the representation of women to three.

CSRWs provide training

Several ACCSRWs found training a means of empowering women for leadership.

(Cont. on pg. 3)

CSRWs at Annual Conference

(Cont. from pg. 2)

As in the past, the **East Ohio** CSRW sponsored a "Happenstance" on "How to make your influence felt at Annual Conference." Led by Sandy Lutz and Dan Church, the session covered "how to speak on the floor," "behind the scenes activities," and "before conference action."

The **North Alabama** CSRW, along with United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men and the Commission on Laity, co-sponsored a lay delegate orientation session.

Monitoring continues

As in years past, CSRW used various means of monitoring to work towards inclusion and equal participation of women.

The **Alaska** CSRW asked delegates to monitor the conference themselves with regard to inclusive language and imagery. At the close of the conference, the CSRW reported the monitoring results and explained again its role. "There was a very vocal minority opposed to our work," wrote CSRW chair Julia Smith.

In its report to the Annual Conference, the **Alaska** CSRW noted discrepancies in salary levels of clergywomen within the conference. "The four ordained clergywomen who have served the Alaska Missionary Conference (AMC) in recent years represent over 39 years of experience in the parish ministry yet their salaries average less than that of their counterparts," the report stated. "At times it has seemed that clergywomen still fight the status of being secondary providers of income in family situations therefore their needs are not prioritized with the same concern as that of men."

In its report to the Annual Conference, the **Alabama-West Florida** CSRW reported the results of its 1985 monitoring. CSRW chair Betty Salter, using figures from the 1985 conference journal, noted there were five committees, boards and agencies with no women, ten with only one woman, and four with only two women. Women serving on District Councils on Ministries in the conference averaged 30 per cent, an improvement over the 24 per cent figure of 1980.

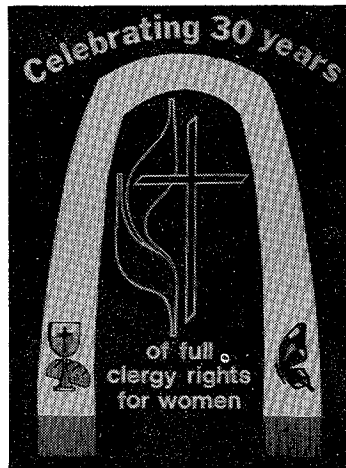
The **East Ohio** CSRW monitored the entire conference proceedings for language (God and people) and numbers of female/male speakers; results are not yet tabulated or analyzed. "But just the knowledge that we were again doing it caused a heightened awareness far beyond the effort expended," reported GCSRW member Jim Kardos, a monitor for the East Ohio CSRW.

For the first time the **Northern Indiana** CSRW had a representative on the conference nominating committee. Other monitoring is done informally and followed up by letter writing by the CSRW as a whole.

Results of the **Pacific Northwest** CSRW monitoring showed participation of women and men, lay and clergy, ethnic and non-

ethnic equal to their proportions. Language was very inclusive. CSRW chair Ruth Steach reported, however: "Bible readings at worship services were the worst offenders. Only at the concluding worship was there any effort by a reader to make language inclusive." One morning worship was totally male in leadership and exclusive in language.

Monitoring by the **South Indiana** CSRW was done by the chair at the nominating committee meetings to ensure that the 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 quota was kept. "Excellent cooperation on all sides," reported CSRW chair Marie Phillips.



Inclusive language, worship CSRW concerns

CSRWs continued to work for and monitor inclusive language in worship and during conference sessions.

A rules change in the **Alaska** Missionary Conference called for imagery and language used during Annual Conference and all Annual Conference-sponsored events, worship and liturgy to reflect both male and female experiences. The CSRW distributed packets on inclusive language in worship and ways for local churches to address the issue.

In the **East Ohio** Conference, the vice chair of the CSRW, Rev. Jane-Ann Hook, served as the chair of the conference worship committee. "Needless to say, it used inclusive language," wrote Kardos.

"The CCOM staff person who is our CSRW liaison was able to improve on the language in some services," reported **Holston** CSRW chair, Rhonda Cooper, "Of course we walk a thin line between being perceived as asking for favors and justice (which includes inclusive language in hymns and liturgy). We take what we can get, yet strategize for what more we can accomplish."

An **Iowa** CSRW member served on the conference worship committee to help

monitor worship materials before preparation. Reported CSRW chair Shirley Textor: "Some progress has been made in the use of inclusive language; God imagery still needs work."

The **North Indiana** CSRW reported "most inclusive language ever used in both worship liturgy and general hymn-singing."

In **South Carolina** the chairperson of the commission on worship is a clergywoman. Reported the CSRW chair: "She does a fantastic job of being inclusive in worship participation and uses inclusive language in hymns and readings."

Passage of a CSRW petition concerning inclusive language in the worship services at the **Troy** Annual Conference means the CSRW will be involved in planning worship for 1987.

The **Virginia** CSRW used its commission report time for a "hymn sing of inclusive language hymns." Special song sheets were prepared by CSRW. The CSRW noted its influence in the report of the Board of Church and Society, made by Eloise Nenon, a former co-chairperson of the CSRW. Wrote Jean Nichols, Virginia CSRW co-chair: "The report was in the form of a service of baptismal renewal and was inclusive in its words and in its images shown during the multi-media sermon."

Language small issue in hymnal sessions

The issue of inclusive language in the United Methodist hymnal appeared to have been eclipsed by the controversy over the Hymnal Revision Committee's decision to delete "Onward Christian Soldiers" and verses of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" from the proposed new hymnal. Each conference hosted a special feedback session allowing for input to the revised hymnal. Twenty conferences in all requested that the committee restore the hymns and verses.

Several Annual Conferences did take stands on the issue of language in the revised hymnal.

Numerous participants at the **Alabama-West Florida** feedback session emphasized they were not in favor of word changes in the hymnal, reported Salter.

The **Kentucky** Annual Conference asked the Hymnal Revision Committee to retain traditional language in hymns in preference to inclusive language, while the **Tennessee** conference asked the committee to cease rewording traditional hymns. The **Memphis** AC opposed changing traditional pronouns referring to the Trinity. In the **California-Nevada** Annual Conference, the body affirmed the work of the committee, and urged inclusiveness so that "the tastes and perspectives of some do not negate the tastes and perspectives of others."

(Cont. on pg. 4)

Buttons, Breakfasts, Bible Studies:

(Cont. from pg. 3)

Reported Steach in the **Pacific Northwest AC**: "Most of the conference would concur with inclusive people language but have varying degrees of commitment to inclusive God language."

The Hymnal Revision Committee received an avalanche of 10,000 letters following its 10-8 vote to discard the two hymns with "militaristic" images. Panel members, flown to Nashville July 2 for an emergency meeting, voted to restore the two hymns.

Legislation, resolutions considered

Sexual harassment, pornography, child abuse, language, and the episcopacy were the subjects of CSRW legislations and resolutions at the 1986 conference sessions.

A comprehensive policy regarding sexual harassment that applies to all members of the UMC, lay and clergy, paid and unpaid volunteers, was accepted at the **Minnesota Annual Conference**. The policy includes a theological statement, definitions, procedures, and a set of recommendations.

The **Eastern Pennsylvania CSRW**, along with the conference Commission on Church and Society, sponsored a resolution urging local church members to oppose pornography and to promote the study of human sexuality and of the "dominant/subordinate relationships between men and women that breed violence." The resolution grew out of the spring 1986 conference on Pornography and Violence held at Asbury College. The conference also asked that clergy and laity be given special training to meet problems of child abuse. Ten Annual Conferences in all passed resolutions condemning pornography.

In the **Louisiana Annual Conference** the CSRW defeated a move to place family counseling, stress management, and family financial management as the CSRW's priorities in the stead of inclusive language and church leadership. "Our commission felt very positive about the clergymen who stood up for CSRW during the amendment debate," wrote Betty Rowell, Louisiana CSRW chair. "Several women told me afterwards they were ready to get up but held back so the conference could hear from men on an issue about women."

A resolution sponsored by the **New Mexico CSRW** to affirm the election of qualified women and ethnic minority persons to the episcopacy in the South Central Jurisdiction was defeated, even after deletion of a paragraph stating the intention of the Annual Conference to accept such episcopal leadership. The CSRW has plans to bring the resolution forward in 1987.

A resolution censuring the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

for violating the spirit and letter of the *Discipline* in its homophobia study was defeated in the **Virginia Annual Conference**.



Yellow ribbons abound

ACCSRWs continued to use yellow ribbons, a symbol of the women's suffrage movement, to encourage and applaud the use of inclusive language.

The **Alaska CSRW** pinned yellow ribbons on every speaker at Annual Conference who intentionally used inclusive language. "Very interesting way to listen," reported Smith. "Some of the least expected people were given ribbons because they were very inclusive in their awareness of language."

In the **Oregon-Idaho AC**, yellow ribbons were waved when "unacceptable exclusive" language was being used. "We hope you won't need to use this ribbon very often," instructions said. "If, however, we discover that we are waving these ribbons a great deal, someone from the CSRW will address the matter on the floor. The Annual Conference already has a commitment to using inclusive language. You are helping the conference to monitor its practice."

Instead of awarding yellow ribbons this year, the **West Ohio CSRW** asked persons to take them: those who had a "Woman in the Pulpit Sunday," have or are a local chairperson, have three or more women trustees, or want to support women in the conference. Reported CSRW chair Georgiana Ward: "As I presented the Bishop and Bishop's assistant with yellow ribbons, commission members distributed ribbons. Several said they were amazed that people were anxious to get ribbons. We passed out at least 1,200. Comments were made that everyone preferred showing their support in place of receiving a ribbon as a reward."

Breakfasts, lunches, dinners

ACCSRWs also continued their traditions of gathering for meals.

Cheryl Pingle, a Jacksonville, FL pastor, was the main speaker at the annual Alabama-West Florida CSRW breakfast. She also led Bible study each morning for the conference.

GCSRW General Secretariat member Nancy Grissom Self was the speaker at the CSRW dinner at the Central Illinois Annual Conference. The CSRW celebrated its 10 year anniversary with a "Roast and Toast" carabet evening. It also presented an art piece to Bishop Woodie White for display in the conference office. A smaller version of the art piece was given to Vandra Rushing, in appreciation of her staff leadership with the commission.

Along with United Methodist Women, the **East Ohio CSRW** sponsored a women's breakfast. The **North Alabama** breakfast featured a speaker on family violence.

The "COSROW Corner" at the **Florida Annual Conference** featured lunch dialogues on women in missions, women in politics and parenting, as well as displays and performances by women artists. During its report to the Annual Conference, singers/songwriters Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers sang their song "Standing Before Us," and honored women of strength, courage and vision in the Florida Conference.

The **Holston CSRW** annual breakfast featured Charles Webb, Dean of Indiana University School of Music and a member of the language subcommittee of the hymnal revision committee. Following his presentation, members of the CSRW arranged for him to make a 20-minute statement to the entire Annual Conference.

Approximately 80 persons attended the **Iowa Women in Professional Ministry** luncheon, the largest number ever. The group, started under the auspices of the CSRW, now operates independently. The CSRW sponsored a luncheon for racial ethnic women and children.

GCSRW General Secretariat member Geneva Harton Dalton was the featured speaker at the **Northern Illinois CSRW** banquet; she spoke on feminist spirituality.

The **North Indiana CSRW** reported the largest attendance ever at an annual CSRW/clergywomen breakfast; even the bishop came.

The **Rocky Mountain CSRW** lunch program consisted of a panel of three persons discussing their experiences with the local church work area on the status and role of women. Women elders and diaconal ministers received gifts; deacons received recognition.

At its annual breakfast the **South Indiana CSRW** celebrated its 10th anniversary, with Nan Self as the featured speaker. Attendance almost doubled from the year before from 100 to 180. Yellow balloons were given to persons and carried to the

(Cont. on pg. 5)

CSRWs Visible at AC

(Cont. from pg. 4)

auditorium for the session; one was tied to the podium where all speakers stood.

CSRW displays bring visibility

Number of ACCSRW sponsored displays, featuring, among other things, copies of the GCSRW newsletter, "The Flyer," materials for local church work areas; "Words that Heal, Words That Heal," "Guidelines for Local Church Leadership: Status and Role of Women;" slide shows, and CSRW brochures.

A VCR tape, showing the progress made and progress needed, was shown continuously by the **Alabama-West Florida** CSRW. Tapes are available to local churches and will be used for training in districts. The CSRW also distributed a button: a butterfly with the words "Moving with the Spirit."

The **Central Illinois** display was a photo montage of "Women in the Church, Women as the Church" in the past ten years. Bookmarks, with quotes from women of the past, were given to all delegates. A video of a local church work area's dramatic presentation for morning worship was also shown at the display area. Reports Phyllis Adams, CSRW chair: "I was very pleased with the

atmosphere around the display, at the cabaret and at the dinner. There was an openness that I had not experienced before and an enthusiasm among CSRW members and supporters as we gear up for the next decade."

The **Iowa** display was prepared by a local SRW committee and focused on local church responsibilities.

Bookmarks, with two butterflies and the phrase "striving for fullness of life" were distributed in delegates' packets by the **North Georgia** CSRW. The backside of the bookmarks noted the CSRW 1986-87 goal to have a representative in each local church.

The main focus of the **New Hampshire** CSRW display was a "buzz board." Players were invited to match "thumb nail sketches" of conference clergywomen with their charges, located on a map of the state. If correctly matched, a light bulb lit. "It was a very popular exhibit," the CSRW reported.

The **Pacific Northwest** CSRW collected a reel of 100 slides of women for continuous projection.

Some 800 buttons were distributed by the **Virginia** CSRW.

A special thanks to the 30 Annual Conference Commissions who sent material for this report.

—Patricia Broughton

Yes! To Life of Bishop Marjorie Matthews

(Cont. from pg. 1)

In Dayton, 1980, the questions had been, "Is she the right person to be the 'first'?" "Is this the right time?" On the way to Alma the questions were "Had it made any difference to have had a woman as Bishop?" "Why is this Memorial Service in a place so difficult to reach?"

Then the worship, the Word, the testimony — Now the response: for me a Yes! Yes! Yes!

Here we gathered — laity, clergy, Bishops — in the church where Marjorie Matthews was nurtured, where she married, baptized a son, sang in the choir, served on committees. She was as one of us. At age 42 she put aside a comfortable, lucrative life as an executive secretary to answer a call to ordained ministry. I wondered how long she had not responded because of the obstacles put before women who did. Early on, many women coming to ministry were older, second-career women. But this day, and in next to me a young clergy woman, sitting in that gathering many others, their journey made easier by the "firsts" who had gone before.

Now the tributes and testimony of her kindred friend Ellen and of clergy who had

shared in Marjorie's life let those of us who knew her only dimly see almost face to face the joie de vivre, the undaunted stepping out and discipleship of Bishop Matthews.

All are called, but only a few are chosen to do what Marjorie Matthews did. Called apart for a time for great tasks, she had returned "home" to be in the large company of the least. Bishop Hunt generously acknowledged that even her colleagues in the Council of Bishops could not comprehend fully the burdens of being the first, or almost the first. Had we supported her enough? Two more women Bishops sat among us that day. Cause for celebration, for prayers for them. Yes!

The words and music of worship washed over me, awakening buried emotion. The words of "Be Thou My Vision", recast to be so generously inclusive — Yes! The clergy stood to sing "All Hail the Power" and for the first time in my memory, enough women's voices were in the blend to be heard. Yes!

Thanks be to God for the firsts of Marjorie Matthews' life! They are a Yes! for all the women who can stand on her small shoulders of broad courage in days to come.

Ovations

To those women honored at the 1986 Annual Conferences:

Recipients of the Harry Denman Evangelism Award:

Susanne G. Coxe, pastor of Parsippany UMC; Northern New Jersey Annual Conference

Janet Crain, a member of Fisk Memorial UMC in Natic, MA; Southern New England AC

Nellie Gildow, teacher at Christ UMC, Newark, OH; West Ohio AC

Diane Holt, a layperson from Milan, NJ; New Hampshire AC

Barbara Maurice, a layperson; Central Pennsylvania AC

Helen Russell, member Christ UMC, Jersey City, NJ; Northern New Jersey AC

Conference preachers/speakers:

Mary Lou Santillan Baert, Perkins School of Theology, led daily Bible study; South Carolina AC

Faith Conklin, San Diego district superintendent, was the conference speaker three nights; Pacific Northwest

Carol Cotton-Winn, of Houma, Louisiana, preached the ordination sermon; South Carolina

Angelin Jones-Simmons, a conference pastor, preached the memorial service; South Carolina AC

Leontine Kelly, bishop of the San Francisco area, preached at the communion and ordination service; Iowa

Carolyn Pitts, Bible teacher; North Alabama AC

Judith Smith, executive director of publishing for the Upper Room, conference preacher; Southwest Texas

Barbara Ricks Thompson, general secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race, was an evening speaker; Virginia AC

To those conferences known to have ordained a significant percentage of women (let "the Flyer" know of others):

California-Nevada: three of eight deacons, nine of 16 elders

East Ohio: 11 of 29 deacons

Little Rock: two of four elders

Maine: five of nine deacons, five of nine elders

New Hampshire: two of two deacons

New York: 11 of 19 deacons, four of 10 elders

North Central New York: six of 12 deacons, nine of 13 elders

To **Helen Crotwell**, former CSRW chair, who was appointed District Superintendent in the North Carolina conference, bring to three the number of women D.S.s in South-eastern Jurisdiction.

Television programs highlight women's issues

Women are featured prominently in several upcoming programs of "Catch the Spirit," the United Methodist television program hosted by Emily Simer and Hilly Hicks. Programs can be seen on the CBN Cable Network, American Christian Television System, Alternate View Network, Black Entertainment Television, and Catholic Telecommunications Network of America. The anticipated schedule is as follows:

Sept. 6, 7, 9

United Methodist Women's Assembly. Highlights of the four-day program of the UMW Assembly in Anaheim, CA. filmed on site.

Sept. 13, 14, 16

An excerpt from the film "God Has Smiled on Me," the story of a physically abused woman who calls "The Refuge," a women's shelter which is part of Henderson UMC ministry in Erie, PA. An interview later shows the woman's growth.

Sept. 20, 21, 23

Becky Haase, a member of the GCSRW, and her husband Sheldon share their story of a family that has adapted — and grown — through change. Haase, a working mother of two, tries not to be trapped in the "superwoman" syndrome.

English synod blocks women priests

A move that would have allowed Episcopal women ordained abroad to conduct services in England was defeated in early July by the Church of England's policymaking general synod. The move was part of an 11-year campaign to admit women to the priesthood of the Church of England. About 600 women have been ordained in the U.S. Episcopal Church and have been invited to conduct services in English churches by vicars who support women priests. Supporters of ordination of women have pledged to step up their campaign.

Seeks racial ethnic minority women for interseminary conference

The planning committee for the 1987 Interseminary Women Conference is seeking racial ethnic seminarians and clergywomen to lead workshops. The theme for the April 3-5, 1987, conference in Princeton,

NJ, is "Inheriting Our Mother's Garden." Send suggestions to Susan Craig, 100 Stockton St., #112, Princeton, NJ 08540. She will contact the women directly.

Women favored in scholarship loans

Women received more than half of the 1985-86 scholarships awarded by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, according to a survey conducted by its Office of Loans and Scholarships. About 56 percent of the scholarships awarded to more than 2,000 students went to ethnic minorities. Among almost 2,000 1985 loan recipients, ethnic minorities account for only 7.4 percent, while males and females divided the loans almost equally.

—information from the April 11, 1986 issue of "Newscope"

U.S. women of faith gather

A celebration of sisterhood, exploration of common struggles, and envisioning the future were the agenda as almost 300 women from six "marginated" Christian women's groups met in Chicago in June.

The first joint conference brought together members of the United Methodist Women's Caucus, Lutheran Women's Caucus, Episcopal Women's Caucus, National Assembly of Women Religious, Chicago Catholic Women, Ecumenical Women's Center, and others not aligned.

United Methodists in leadership included:
* Barbara Ricks Thompson, General Secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race, shared the podium responding to Critical Social Issues;

* Kiyoko Kasai Fujiu, member of the General Secretariat of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women, who, along with Emma Justes, associate professor of pastoral psychology and counseling at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and Barbara Thompson, presented a workshop on racism and sexism;

* Phyllis Athey and Mary Jo Osterman, co-directors of Kinheart, who led a workshop on homophobia;

* Martha Scott, an ordained UMC elder, who co-chaired a workshop on the Reformation and role of women today;

* Donna Louise Allen Atkinson, a District Superintendent in the Northern Illinois Conference, who spoke on the use of power in the church.

United Methodists at the conference gathered on several occasions with Phyllis Tholin, convener of the United Methodist Women's caucus, strategizing for the empowerment of the 15-year-old caucus. Four persons volunteered to serve as contact

persons in each of the jurisdictions (the South Central is unfilled):

Southeastern — Martha Rutland-Wallis
Northeastern — Loise George
North Central — Carol Larson
Western — Claudia Genung

Rutland-Wallis also agreed to take over as editor of the "Yellow Ribbon," the occasional newsletter of the caucus. Tholin will be contacting persons who responded to an earlier mailing to enlist their assistance. Additionally, a brochure explaining the caucus and its distinction from United Methodist Women and the GCSRW will be prepared for distribution at GCSRW Regional Training Events, Annual Conferences, and other United Methodist gatherings.

NCC to hold language consultation

The power of language to help shape lives will be the focus of a "Consultation on Language, Thought and Social Justice," June 26-30, 1987, sponsored by the Division of Education and Ministry of the National Council of Churches (NCC).

Some 125 women and men will explore interrelationships of language issues and social justice issues. Those being sought are persons representing national, regional and local denominational and ecumenical groups with significant experience in language, theology and/or social justice and with commitment to ongoing work on these issues.

The consultation will bring together for the first time persons working on new hymnals, liturgies and Bible translations. It will deal with the ways language and social structures can contribute to liberation from structures of oppression because of race, sex, class, disability, age and other forms of prejudice.

Applications to participate in the National Invitational Conference are available from Jean Huffman, Staff, Consultation on Language, Thought and Social Justice, Room 704, National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115-0500, and are being accepted through December 1, 1986. Invitations will be sent to selected persons by Feb. 1, 1987.



Resources

Co-dependence; Misunderstood, Mistreated. Anne Wilson Schaefer, author of the acclaimed "Women's Reality," describes in her second book a disease, co-dependence, that affects numbers of women. "The characteristics of the nonliberated women are identical to the characteristics of the co-dependent," Schaefer asserts, weaving together perspectives from the women's movement with those of chemical dependency, mental health and family therapy. Schaefer describes how three major institutions, including the church, support this disease. A critical book for women in the church. Winston Press, 1986. \$7.95 pb.

A Shared Journey. Finally! Those who have heard the Baltimore clergywomen sing can now bring the sounds home. This cassette/songbook includes 24 songs written and sung by clergywomen in the Baltimore Annual Conference. The collective project, which grew out of the life and shared journey of these women, includes songs of celebration, for vision and hope, in Advent, while waiting, and in gratitude. Cassette: \$6.50; songbook: \$6.50; both: \$12.00. Add \$2.50 postage and handling. Order from Rev. Linda Coveleski, 3939 Gamber Road, Ginksburg, MD 21048.

WATER. Donors to WATER, Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethnicity and Ritual, will now periodically receive resources, including liturgies, bibliographies, theological and ethical insights, reports on WATER speakers and events. The first resource was a "Pentecost Blessing" created by co-director Diann Neu. Write WATER, 8035 13th Street, Suite 3, Silver Spring, MD 20910. (301) 589-2509.

The Pilgrim Press. This publisher's latest catalog features 23 books on significant social and religious issues; most focusing on issues of import to women. Included are books on women and poverty, Christian feminism and theological education, race and sex in Black women's fiction, sexual violence, worship, abortion, divorce, inclusive language, ministry. Write The Pilgrim Press, 132 West 31st St., New York, NY 10001.

The Cinema Guild. Three new films focus on abortion and hysterectomy: "Abortion" (cross-cultural survey filmed internationally); "Personal Decisions" (seven women discussing their abortions); "Sudden Changes: Post Hysterectomy Syndrome." For catalog write The Cinema Guild, 1697 Broadway, New York, NY 10019. (212) 246-5522.

Violence and Sexual Violence in the Media. Special 24-page issue of "Media&Values," an interfaith media magazine, in cooperation with the National Council of Churches, serves as resource for analysis and action on the problem of violence and sexual violence in today's mass media. Single copies: \$3; 2-8 copies, \$2.50 each; prices on larger quantities available. Yearly subscription (4 issues) \$12. Send payment to Media&Values, 1962 S. Shenandoah, Los Angeles, CA 90034. (213) 559-2944.

A Male/Female Continuum: Paths to Collegueship. Carol Pierce, with Bill Page, describes in this book movement away from role-stereotyped dominance and subordination, transitions into new ways of relating, and collegueship, a place of mutuality and empowerment. Cost: \$7 plus postage (\$1.07). Bulk prices available. Write: New Dynamics Publications, 21 Shore Drive, Laconia, NH 03246.

Collegiality Connection. New newsletter edited by Richard B. Faris and Jeanne Torrence Finley to promote dialogue among women and men in ministry, probe definitions and practice of collegiality, enable effective ministry of all Christians (laity and clergy), and promote partnership in ministry. Write Collegiality Connection, 690 S. Mason St., Harrisonburg, VA 22801.

Calendar

Sept. 26-28 **The Council of All Beings: Personal Empowerment and Social Concern.** Grailville workshop led by Buddhist scholar Joanna Rogers Macy, author of "Despair and Personal Power in the Nuclear Age" seeks to open participants to experience their deep interconnectedness with all of life. Contact Grailville, 932 O'Bannonville Road, Loveland, OH 45140. (513) 683-2340.

Oct. 9-11 **Woman Spirit Rising.** Conference in Athens, OH, with Delores Williams (poet/theologian addressing "Parables of Feminist Gospel"), Mary Hunt (co-director of WATER, Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual) and Carole Etzler (songwriter/performer). Estimated cost: \$45. Write United Campus Ministry, 18 N. College St., Athens, OH 45701. (614) 593-7301.

Oct. 31-Nov. 2 **Conference on Adolescent Pregnancy.** Sponsored by the General

Board of Global Ministries, UMC. In Phoenix, AZ. Focus on low-cost advocacy, education and program models which combat adolescent pregnancy. Write GBGM, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115.

Nov. 6 **Women-Men Liberation and Religion in America.** Lecture by Rosemary Radford Ruether, professor at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Part of the 1986 Interdisciplinary Series at The University of Dayton: "Sex, Gender and Humanity." For schedule write Patricia Altenbernd Johnson, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Dayton, Dayton, OH 45469.

Jan. 13 **Women, Church and Theology.** First session of weekly Saint Paul School of Theology continuing education course introducing the critiques and contributions of feminist theology. With Kristine A. Culp. \$60. Write Office of Continuing Education, Saint Paul School of Theology, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO 64127.

The Flyer is published five times yearly by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) in the United Methodist Church (UMC) as a communications link with the 73 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 \$5.

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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:
Geneva Harton Dalton • Kiyoko Kasai Fujii • Nancy Grissom Self

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Commission Talent Scout

Intern, Department of Social and Economic Justice, General Board of Church and Society, UMC. One year, full-time, non-renewable internship in memory of late GBCS General Secretary George H. Outen, established after advocacy by the Black Staff Forum. Assist in developing position paper on public education issues and gathering information on unemployment among Black youth. Salary: \$14,000 inclusive of housing. Starts Sept. 15. Send resume to Harold W. Stephens, Personnel Manager, General Board of Church and Society, 100 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. Deadline for applications: Aug. 20.

Program Staff, West Michigan Conference, UMC. To resource and coordinate New Church Development. Degrees in related field required; must be willing to live in Grand Rapids area. Salary: \$21,000-\$31,000. Send resume and letters of recommendation to Jeanne McCaw, 1837 Skyler Dr., Kalamazoo, MI 49008. Deadline: Aug. 30

Associate level staff position, Southern New Jersey Conference, UMC. Seeking generalist for programmatic ministries; initial responsibilities in urban ministry, ethnic minority ministry and coordination of training. Salary negotiable. Contact Chairperson, CCOM, c/o Southern NJ Annual Conference, 1995 E. Marlton Pike, Cherry Hill, NJ 08803-1893. Deadline Sept. 10.

Full-time Communications Coordinator, East Pennsylvania Conference, UMC. Write Council Director, PO Box 820, Valley Forge, PA 19482.

Program Staff, Northern Illinois Conference, UMC. Focus on communication, including editing and promoting the conference newspaper, coordinating public relations activities and the production of resources and training materials. Salary based on experience. Apply with Carolyn Henninger Oehler, 77 W. Washington St., Suite 1806, Chicago, IL 60602. (312) 346-8752. Deadline: Oct. 1.

Old Testament professor, Perkins School of Theology. Search reopened. Tenure track appointment effective fall, 1987. Rank and salary negotiable; Ph.D. or equivalent required; some teaching experience highly desirable. Resumes to Dr. W.J.A. Power, chair, Old Testament Search Committee, Perkins School of Theology, S.M.U., Dallas, TX 75275. Deadline Sept. 15.

Faculty positions in church history, theology, social ethics (Muelder professorship) at Boston School of Theology. Seeking candidates with demonstrated teaching effectiveness, competence in the Wesleyan tradition, significant contribution to historical scholarship, commitment to the preparation of candidates for the Christian ministry and strengthening an established Ph.D. program. Send applications to Associate Dean, BU School of Theology, 745 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215.

Editors, United Methodist Publishing House. Five editor positions open: younger children (2), youth and adult, Hispanic, Korean. Require graduate studies or equivalent in Christian education, Bible, theology; formal training in English or journalism; related curriculum/Christian education experience. Salaries in mid \$20,000s. Contact Patricia Hall, Employment Office, 201 Eighth Ave., South, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 749-6294.

General Board of Global Ministries, UMC. The board publishes a monthly listing of executive vacancies in all program divisions/departments. Write John Dalton, GBGM, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 1476, New York, NY 10115. (212) 870-3666.

American Friends Service Committee. For a listing of current job openings send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. (215) 241-7105.

Education and Music Position Openings. For a list of church position openings, write the Division of Diaconal Ministry, BHEM, UMC, PO Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 327-2700, ext. 215.



The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women
in the United Methodist Church