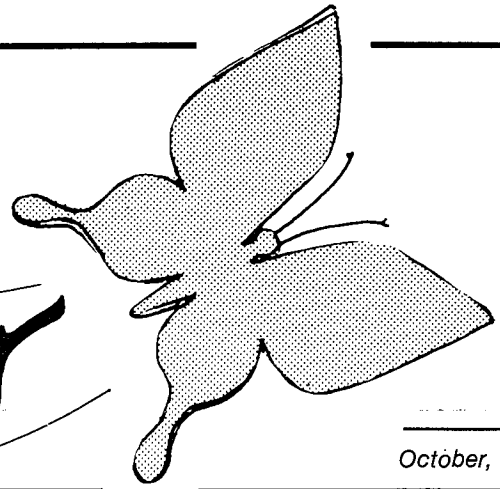


The Flyer

VOLUME V, No. 4

October, 1983



GCSRW TO PETITION GENERAL CONFERENCE FOR LOCAL CHURCH STATUS AND ROLE UNIT

Taking the lead from a ground swell at the conference level, the GCSRW is recommending legislation to General Conference that would add a work unit on the status and role of women to the local church's council on ministries.

At the initiative of Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women, about 1/3 of the 73 UM annual conferences already have such work areas in local churches, according to informal reports received by the GCSRW.

"With or without passage of the local church legislation, this emphasis will go forward," said GCSRW General Secretariat member Nancy Grissom Self. The movement is similar to that which created Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women in the quadrennium before they were mandated in the 1976 *Discipline*.

The Commission is at work on a booklet, part of the "Guidelines for Local Church Leaders" that would help local churches discover and delve into issues concerning the status and role of women. Included in the booklet, to be published by the United Methodist Publishing House in January, 1985, are sections on biblical/theological foundations for the work, areas to investigate, a checklist for an inclusive church, a glossary, calendar and bibliography. They will be available for purchase through cokesbury stores.

FINAL GCSRW MEETING: EVER WATCHFUL, COMMISSION MOVES TOWARD 1985-1988 QUADRENNIUM

With a dramatic display of consensus decision-making, an endorsement of the current Missional Priority (Developing and Strengthening the Ethnic Minority Local Church), and an eye toward the future, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women concluded its work for the quadrennium.

"This is a pivotal time for us, the commission," GCSRW President Carolyn Oehler told members at the opening session of the quadrennium's last annual meeting. "It is pregnant with possibility; we have come of age in a very important way in the church of late--our credibility is fairly high in some important places."

Recognizing that issues of the status and role of women are of increasing importance at the local church level, the Commission approved a petition calling for creation of a local church work area on the status and role of women (see story page 3). Other proposed legislation to be sent to the May 1984 General Conference includes:

- representation of at least one-half women on the local church nominations committee,
- possible addition of a director of status and role of women on the district council on ministries,
- a district property committee inclusive of gender, race and persons with handicapping conditions; and
- equal numbers of women and men on local church boards of trustees.

The legislation came partially in response to findings of the GCSRW's extensive survey of 1,000 local churches. The survey revealed that while women are increasing in both membership and leadership overall, they still are drastically underrepresented in administrative posts and committees, on boards of trustees, and on finance and stewardship committees (see story page 5).

SUPPORT FOR INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE, EMLC

As it approved a resolution "rejoicing" in the newly published National Council of Churches "Inclusive Language Lectionary," the Commission urged all United Methodist churches to use the lectionary regularly in weekly worship. Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women are asked to transmit the recommendation to local churches. The first installment of what will be a three-year cycle of Scripture readings for public worship went on sale in mid-October.

The recommendation to continue "Developing and Strengthening the Ethnic Minority Local Church" as the sole missional priority came after more than an hour of debate.

"The United Methodist Church has not taken the missional priority voted in 1980 seriously," said one commission member. "Strengthening of the ethnic minority local church has not happened, and the church needs to be held accountable. Being who we are, we need to take a stand and support the continuing priority."

"We the UMC have made the commitment by words alone," agreed another member.

Several members noted that sometimes racial ethnic women see the Commission as engaged solely in white women's issues. "They don't see any evidence of the Commission doing anything for ethnic women."

One member, saying his conference has few ethnic minority individuals, reported difficulty in generating support for the EMLC this quadrennium.

Another member from a conference with a small ethnic minority membership said the EMLC has contributed to activity in two cities. "If we don't continue to support the EMLC, a conference like mine could fall back," she said.

The resolution to approve the EMLC in-

(Cont. on pg. 3)

OPTIONS FOR ACTION

(The information in the "Options for Action" section of The Flyer is taken from the minutes of Annual Conference Commissions. We encourage all annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women to send their minutes to the General Commission office, and to send copies of event announcements, surveys, brochures, booklets, etc. which are developed by the ACCSRW. Clippings from Conference newspapers are also valuable in gathering material for this section. Thanks.)

KENTUCKY-- The CSRW, in conjunction with the Conference's United Methodist Women, Health and Welfare Ministries, and the Church and Society Committee, sponsored a one-day "Strength for Discipleship" event especially for those who relate to persons in crisis. Rev. Sylvia Easterling Gregory, an associate pastor at a Lexington church, and Phyllis Hail, Associate Director of the Conference Council on Ministries, were among the leaders. Participants explored Biblical foundations for caring/sharing ministries, developed listening skills, practiced dealing with conflict, and identified resources.

RED BIRD MISSIONARY-- The CSRW is surveying local churches to determine how many women hold local church offices. Efforts are being made to complete this survey. Members of the CSRW attended the GCSRW training event in Nashville and the Kentucky CSRW training session, "Strength for Discipleship," (see above).

WEST OHIO-- A series of luncheons honoring local church staff persons, including secretaries, bookkeepers, custodians, receptionists, was sponsored by the CSRW. The two-fold purpose of the luncheons was to give opportunity for support staff to meet one another and to show appreciation for the services given to the church. Support persons, in addition, also filled out a survey for the CSRW. Rev. Violet Mosher chaired the planning committee.

NEBRASKA-- Using information recorded in the Conference Journals and received from District Offices, the CSRW surveyed the numbers of women in leadership at conference and district levels. Among its conclusions are these:

- In general, most boards, commissions and committee are above the mean in their representation of women.
- Groups with a significantly high percentage of lay women are Board of Church and Society, Board of Global Ministries, Board of Diaconal Ministries, Commission on Religion and Race, CSRW, Budget and Personnel Committee and EMLC Committee.
- Groups which are below the mean in their representation of women are Board of Pensions, Board of Trustees, Council on Finance and Administration, and Commission on Equitable Salary.
- No clergywomen serve on the Board of Diaconal Ministries, Commission on Religion and Race, Board of Pensions, Board of Trustees, Council on Finance and Administration, Board of Trustees, Commission on Archives and History, Commission on Equitable Salary, Nominating Committee, Budget and Personnel Committee, Planning and Research and the EMLC Committee. "It appears that clergywomen are asked to serve on programming boards more than on those concerned with the financial aspects of the conference," the CSRW stated in the survey results.

In analyzing the numbers, the CSRW recognized that women have been asked to serve and said "no," and that there are a limited number of clergywomen available to fill positions.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN-- Elizabeth Cady Stanton, 19th century women's rights activist and prime author of the "Women's Bible," came alive for diners at the CSRW Annual Conference luncheon. The Rev. Sandra Stephens performed Stanton as a woman of 82 reflecting on her friendship with Susan B. Anthony, her introduction of the first-ever resolution to give women the right to vote, and her call for the first Women's Rights Convention in 1848 in Seneca Falls, NY. Stephens, a direct ancestor of Stanton's, wrote the two-act, one-woman play.

EAST OHIO-- Some 100 laypersons, about half women, took advantage of the CSRW's "Happenstance," a training session held the Sunday evening before Annual Conference to equip laypersons with the skills needed to be effective at Annual Conference sessions. "There were a number of people there whom I didn't know were supporters of the commission; they came out of their own need," said CSRW chairperson Joan Skelley-Watts. Participants worked on how to get a microphone, effective speech-making, techniques for getting the Bishop's attention. Because of the very positive response, the CSRW plans to sponsor the event again next year.

The CSRW's 10th anniversary celebration held during the Annual Conference also gave the CSRW positive visibility, Skelley-Watts said.

Sandwich boards outlined issues of the decade and invited onlookers to add future issues as part of a "herstory" presented outside. In addition, Commission members distributed lemonade and cookies shaped in the CSRW symbol.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY-- The CSRW and the Conference United Methodist Women again sponsored a training for lay members session prior to the Annual Conference (See August 1982 *Flyer* for article on 1982 session and hints for empowerment.) At a mock Annual Conference session participants discussed issues, looked at the Consent Calendar and what it means. Sample ballots were available and the voting process for choosing delegates to General and Jurisdictional Conferences discussed. The chairperson of the organizing task force emphasized the importance of being a lay delegate for a number of years: "the more you are at the conference, the more you become familiar with it."

IOWA-- In a November leadership training event sponsored by the CSRW and United Methodist Women, women will focus on power: experiencing power as women of faith, understanding power, using power by becoming more skillful leaders. The one-day event is a follow-up of leadership training held about a year ago.

DETROIT-- As a result of a number of inquiries from clergy spouses, mostly women, the CSRW issued a brochure providing basic information on dealing with divorce in clergy families. The CSRW is in the midst of revising the brochure to make procedures clearer and add information about available funding, counseling, referrals, CSRW secretary Susan Bennett Stiles said. Contained in the brochure is information on pensions, moving, hospitalization, and insurance. The CSRW is working with the cabinet and conference board of discipleship; the initial brochure was mailed to each parsonage and given to district superintendents.

A resolution promoting an endowed lectureship in honor of Bishop Marjorie Matthews was passed at Annual Conference; the resolution will be brought to the General Conference for approval and funding.

LOOKING FORWARD TO ORIENTATION

Issues, skills and strategies for survival will be at the top of the docket as women delegates meet together for pre-General Conference orientation and training. And although that event is more than half a year away, the GCSRW and the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries are already hard at work planning.

Scheduled for the Tuesday morning before GC begins, the orientation will be an expanded version of the very-successful 1980 program. Women will meet in legislative committees and practice common procedures. Experts from the Women's Division, GCSRW and other groups will brief delegates on "hot" issues.

In addition to the orientation, a number of other aids will be provided during the 11 days. Delegates will receive a "survival kit," suggesting essential items to bring in order to endure the rigors of two intense weeks. A women's center, located in the V.I.P. Lounge in the convention center (where legislative committees meet the first week) will provide a place to relax and get information.

Local Baltimore area women will help host a social as delegates arrive Monday, May 1, and are being requested to lead the Sunday worship.

"It is our hope to help the women delegates to be as knowledgeable and as supported as possible," said General Secretariat member Nancy Grissom Self.

METHODIST HEADS AWARDS COMMITTEE

A United Methodist woman, Koryne Horbal of Minneapolis, is heading the selection process for the second year of the Wonder Woman awards, created by Warner Communications to honor women over 40 who have the traits of the comic book heroine.

Two other United Methodists, Jeri Rasmussen of Shoreview, MN, and Beverly Boche, director of communications for the Minnesota UMC, serve on one of the regional review committees. Winners are expected to be announced in October or November. (See April 1983 *Flyer* for story on 1982 winners.)

FINAL GCSRW MEETING: EVER WATCHFUL

(Cont. from pg. 1)

cluded a request to ensure that the Missionary Priority be inclusive of ethnic minority women's concerns, and that the General Conference include "enforcement language."

"CLEAR CHANNEL FOR WORKING OF HOLY SPIRIT"

This discussion, and another debating (and subsequently rejecting) a special committee to nominate officers prior to the first meeting of the new commission, demonstrated to many the value of the Commission's consensus decision-making process.

Rev. Leontine Kelly, a guest at the meeting, arose in appreciation after the second debate to proclaim:

"The operative style of COSROW is like an oasis in a desert. It is far from being a mirage! It confirms... that consensus is a clear channel for the working of the Holy Spirit. It is the clearest and closest opportunity to working within the will of God I have witnessed. Praise God!"

The Monitoring and Research work unit laid out and the GCSRW approved an ambitious schedule for monitoring general agencies, commissions and seminaries, as well as language and imagery.

Desk audits are expected to be sent to general agencies and commissions in October, with findings reported in January. Projected on-site visits for seminaries are:

Fall, 1983-St. Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, MO

Spring, 1984-Claremont School of Theology, Claremont, CA

Fall, 1984-Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL

Fall, 1984-Duke Divinity School, Durham, NC.

A monitoring visit to the General Commission on Christian Unity and Inter-religious Concerns is planned for spring, 1984.

Monitoring language and imagery will be done with the solicited assistance of Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women. A subgroup has developed a monitoring form and will be requesting help from ACCSRWs.

The third draft of a document outlining the Commission's role in formal complaint and investigation of sex discrimination was approved, with the General Secretariat noting that some 80 to 85 per cent of all queries are handled informally and without filing a written, formal complaint. Complaints from clergywomen are channeled to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry. When a formal complaint is filed and investigated, the commission provides follow-up monitoring for compliance of recommendations.

TOWARDS THE FUTURE

The Education and Advocacy work unit, which processed the complaint procedure revisions, made several recommendations for the next quadrennium, including

- continue to work toward a Native American consultation
- appoint five or more persons to serve as members of the complaint investigation team, providing them with special training, including methods of coping with stress, investigative skills, and understanding of the GCSRW's role as an agent of systemic change
- continue to look at language issues
- sensitize annual conference boards of ordained ministry to women's issues
- providing training for general boards and agencies on women's issues.

Planning for the orientation for women delegates to General Conference, reviewing guidelines for local church work areas on the status and role of women, and projecting regional training events for the

(Cont. on pg. 4)



GCSRW PROVIDES CATALYST FOR HISPANIC WOMEN

Acting on its mandate to serve as an advocate and catalyst for women, the GCSRW will sponsor a national gathering of United Methodist hispanic women in August of 1984.

An ad-hoc committee of hispanic women from across the country has already met several times to begin planning, and the GCSRW voted at its September meeting to sponsor the event and contribute \$8,000.

The idea of a national consultation was sparked in July, 1982, when a group of approximately 25 hispanic women met in Nashville, TN, for a writers' conference sponsored by the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries. Concern was expressed about the deep isolation and disen-

franchisement felt by hispanic women in the United States and Puerto Rico.

The purpose of the event will be to bring hispanic women together and develop networks; to recover and affirm the history and contributions of hispanic women; to enable hispanic women to deal with racism and sexism in the church and community; and to find ways of bringing about understanding of issues with other ethnic minority women.

Funding is being sought from the General Commission on Religion and Race, the National and Women's Divisions of the Board of Global Ministries, and from the 7.5 EMLC Category of the General Council on Ministries.

WOMEN MOVE INTO WORLD ARENA

"The power, presence and peace of women is making itself felt in the Vancouver Assembly. Ask any participant to list his/her favourite speakers and the names of Helen Caldicott, Dorothee Solle and Pauline Webb crop up again and again."

WCC Assembly newspaper, Canvas, Aug. 4, 1983

For the first time in the history of the World Council of Churches, women were a visible and vocal presence, participants and observers alike report following the world assembly at Vancouver, British Columbia.

British lay theologian and broadcaster Pauline Webb set the tone for the Assembly in her sermon at the opening service. She spoke of the Christian symbol of blood - Jesus' blood, the blood of martyrdom such as Archbishop Oscar Romero, slain in El Salvador.

German theologian Dorothee Solle contrasted the outward poverty of the Third World with the inner emptiness of Western societies. For Solle, this spiritual poverty illumines that true fulfillment is found not in material possession but in human relationships: "Richness means gaining brothers and sisters."

"I was pleasantly surprised (by the feminist consciousness)," said GCSRW President Carolyn Oehler,

a WCC delegate. "I went girded for a whole lot of pain, and there was some, but compared to what I anticipated, I was pleasantly surprised."

The most significant women's presence, Oehler reported, was in worship: "It was enormously enriched by the women who were there. Women's concerns were evident in worship. Language was changed on the spot, and it was evident there had been sensitivity in preparation."

One service was particularly exclusive, with all male celebrants and sacrament servers. "One United Methodist pastor (male) said to me, 'All I could think about was how male it was - I must have been sensitized and I didn't even know it.'"

For Kiyoko Kasai Fujiu, a member of the GCSRW General Secretariat and visitor to the WCC, the most significant aspect of the assembly were the presentations by German theologians Solle and Heidmarie Langer. Langer, speaking as part of the accredited visitor's program, spoke of her difficulty as a German of doing feminist theology. "I come from a long tradition of preaching, teaching, words, and men," she said. This tradition has separated the mind, spirit, and bodies, and feminist theology brings the two together. "I work with bodies because our bodies are not separate from mind and spirit."

FINAL GCSRW MEETING

(Cont. from pg. 3)

next quadrennium provided work for the Annual Conferences/Constituency Services work unit.

Based on evaluations and recommendations from the Denver and Nashville Regional Training Events, the GCSRW will plan similar events for the 1985-88 quadrennium. Guidelines for local churches, being prepared by the GCSRW, are due in print January, 1985.

In other action at the meeting the Commission

- agreed to sponsor a national hispanic women's consultation in 1984 (see story page 4);

- approved the intent of a General Conference petition instructing the General Council on Finance and Administration to reconsider its present method of setting salary levels of elected employees of general agencies (known as factoring);

- approved a budget of \$334,439 for 1984 (up from \$271,850 in 1983), which necessitates the 1984 cancelation of one general meeting;

- asked General Secretaries of boards and agencies and jurisdictional secretaries to collect biographical information for persons nominated to serve on general boards and agencies, so that nominating committees might have more complete information from which to make choices of additional members;

- approved a study leave for General Secretariat member Trudi Kibbe Preciphs in which she will study alternative healing methods as a resource for women's spiritual and physical well-being;

- selected a team of 11 to monitor the work of the General Conference;

- approved a video-tape proposal which will enable the Commission to create resources on the Commission's work in monitoring and advocacy. ■

OLDER = POORER FOR WOMEN

At a recent convention of the Older Women's League (OWL) the phrase "feminization of poverty" was repeated often in connection with some of the following government statistics:

- 2.8 million women over 65 live in poverty, compared with less than a million men.
- 60% of women over 65 living alone have Social Security as their only income.
- 4 million women between 45-65 have no health insurance.

LOCAL CHURCH SURVEY REVEALS SLOW GAINS FOR WOMEN

Women are incredibly involved in the life of local churches. And their participation is increasing in virtually every arena. That's the *good news* from a local church survey recently completed by the GCSRW.

What is less encouraging is that in some traditionally male arenas, particularly the administrative and financial, women continue to lag drastically behind the men in membership and leadership. And women continue to dominate in areas traditionally considered "female," such as education, children's ministries, worship, and missions.

Of the 524 churches reporting, women chair only 14 per cent of the churches of the administrative boards, eight per cent of the boards of trustees, and 22 per cent of the committees on finance. One-fourth of all boards of trustees have no women members at all. And 37 per cent used no women ushers during the past year.

Conversely, women head 95 per cent of children's ministry councils, 82 per cent of missions and education work areas, and 80 per cent of worship work areas.

In terms of worship leadership, 93 per cent of the churches had women as lay liturgists sometime during the year, and 3/5 had a woman preach the Sunday morning sermon. (Women pastor 6% of the responding churches.) Almost half use a translation of Matthew 6:14 which has inclusive language for humans, while virtually no one uses an inclusive-language version of the Doxology.

The survey shows that while women are increasing in participation and leadership in traditionally male areas, men are not moving into traditionally female areas. "It appears that United Methodist men have completely turned over these areas to women," commented Charles Stewart, the GCSRW's secretary, and a P.h.D. candidate at Stanford presently at Brookings Institute in Washington D.C. Stewart has served as the projects' survey analyst.

Part of the function of the 1,000-church survey was to try to determine what factors lead to or are correlated with more inclusive churches. Questions asked church size, community size, racial/ethnic composition of the church, minister's gender, and pastor's ranking of the congregation on a scale of one ("most traditional") to ten ("most feminist").

The most significant factor, Stewart said, was church size. "The very largest churches (more than 1,000 members) and the very smallest (less than 200 members) have the lowest percentage of women in church leadership, and women tend to be in the most traditional roles - children, education and missions."

Stewart also examined the factors to try to determine what might lead to quicker or more significant gains for women. Nothing changes the pattern, Stewart said. "The only thing causing change in these patterns seems to be time."

One possible agenda for a local church work area on the status and role of women is to provide training and encouragement for women to move into traditionally male areas, he suggested.

ON THE CALENDAR

Nov. 2-5 **THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY'S ROLES IN BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE AND VENGEANCE.** Sponsored by the National Interreligious Task Force on Criminal Justice, bringing together 350-500 persons from religious communities to analyze, identify, reconcile. Workshops and panels on prison ministries, the death penalty, juvenile justice, organizing. Registration: \$45. Write or call Virginia Mackey, Conference Coordinator, 121 North Fitzhugh St., Rochester, NY 14614.

Nov. 4-6 **WOMEN, MEN AND THE BIBLE.** Feminist theologian and author Virginia Ramey Mollenkott will speak on themes from her book of the same title. Sponsored by the "company" at Kirkridge, a covenant group supporting and meeting at the ecumenical retreat center. In Bangor, PA. Cost: \$85. Send to Anthony Ciccarello, 520 W. Gray St., Elmira, NY 14905.

Nov. 6-8 **NEW DIRECTIONS FOR WOMEN AND MEN: WORKING TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH.** At the Montreat Conference Center, PO Box 907, Montreat, NC 28757. Phone 704-669-2911.

Nov. 6 **WOMANSPRIT CELEBRATION.** The Boston Women's Theological Center offers a number of events from October to June, including monthly "womanspirit celebrations," liturgies designed to bring women together to transform pain and struggle into shared power. Seminars throughout the year, part of a series entitled "Wellsprings of Power; Women of Faith," will explore ethics and social justice from a feminist Christian perspective. For a calendar write Women's Theological Center, 400 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115. Phone (617) 277-1330.

Nov. 8-10 **CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN.** Lectures by Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza and Sally McFague with leadership by Peggy Way, Leontine Kelley and Kathy Nickerson. Cost: \$50. Write Catherine Snow, Office of the Dean, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, TN 37240.

Nov. 11-13 **WOMAN CHURCH SPEAKS.** National gathering of 2,000 to 3,000 Roman Catholic women sharing stories, insights, struggles, skills. At the O'Hare/Kennedy Holiday Inn, Rosemont, IL. Contact Maureen Reiff, 1307 S. Wabash Ave., Rm. 224, Chicago, IL 60605.

Nov. 18-19 **COMMON DIFFERENCES: CHANGING THE WAYS WE THINK ABOUT WOMEN AND THE HUMANITIES.** At the NC Central University in Durham, NC, with a focus on the lives of black women and comparing the lives of black women and white women in the South. Cost: \$5. Write Duke-UNC Women's Studies Research Center, 105 East Duke Building, Durham, NC 27708.

Dec. 2-4 **SPIRITUALITY OF GREAT WOMEN.** Retreat to bring women together to reflect on the great women who have influenced each one's life. Time for quiet and for common prayer. Led by Joanne Kollasch, Benedictine Sister, at St. Benedict Center, Fox Bluff, Box 5070, Madison, WI 53705. Cost: \$50.

Dec. 5-7 **WOMEN AND MEN TOGETHER: A WORKSHOP EXPLORING ISSUES OF TRANSFORMATION FOR SELF, CHURCH AND THE WORLD.** Contact Linda Kramer, The Alban Institute, Inc., Mount St. Alban, Washington, DC 20016. Phone (202) 244-7320.

OVATIONS

To **YOLANDA RIVAS**, Associate General Secretary for Religion and Race, who was ordained a deacon in the United Methodist Church.

To **MARJORIE PROCTER-SMITH**, who will join the Perkins School of Theology in Dallas as a visiting assistant professor of worship. Previously she taught at Notre Dame University.

To **SHEILA COLLINS**, former General Board of Global Ministries staff, who received the 1983 "Ball Award" from the Methodist Federation of Social Action.

To the **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**, on its election of Carol Joyce Brun as secretary of the 1.75 million member denomination; she is the first woman elected an officer of the church and one of the first women in any mainline Protestant denomination to be elected to such a post. The UCC's biennial policy-making meeting also called for work throughout the denomination to minister to victims of (domestic) violence and their abusers.

To **SHIRLEY CADLE**, of Cincinnati, OH; **OLIVIA E. GRAHAM**, of Beaver Falls, PA; **NORMA B. COULDWELL**, of Bolton, Lancashire, England; and **JENNIFER B. LUNN**, of Bentham, Lancaster, England, who are participating in the 1983 World Exchange Program of the World Parish, an international organ of the World Methodist Council.

To **NANCY L. BENTLEY**, of Nashville, who has been appointed information services associate in the public relations division of the United Methodist Publishing House.

To **BEVERLY EVERETT**, member of the Iowa Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women, who was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame for her work in advocating equity for women here and abroad.

To **RUTH E. BABCOCK** who has been named art director for UMC's Division of Program and Benevolence Interpretation in Evanston, Ill. She has a 17 years of experience in graphics and packaging design for corporations.

To five women recently endorsed by the UM Division of Chaplains and Related Ministries: **JOAN BARCLAY** (East Ohio Conference, pastoral counseling); **JUANICE EDWARDS** (Western NC Conf., Air Force, reserve); **ANN L. SABLAN** (South Indiana Conf., Army, active); **JILL G. WALTER** (Central Ill. Conf., general hospital); **NANCY KAREN CLAUSEL HENSON** (Memphis Conf., pastoral counseling).

To **M. GARLINDA BURTON**, a staff writer for the *United Methodist Reporter*, who has been named news director of the Nashville, Tenn., office of United Methodist News Service. A native of Durham, N.C., she is a graduate of the University of Tennessee and has worked on newspaper in Tennessee and Iowa.

To the **RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR ABORTION RIGHTS**, that recently celebrated "A Decade of Choice" with United Methodist Jessma Blockwick, RCAR Coordinator for Field Services, presiding. Three Senators were honored for their successful defense of abortion rights in fall, 1982. Blockwick was formerly on the staff of the General Board of Church and Society.

To **LETICIA SHANANI**, who will be Secretary-General of the 1985 World Conference of Women in Nairobi, Kenya, sponsored by the United Nations. She is a citizen of the Philippines and presently heads the UN Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in Vienna.

To **BARBARA DUNLAP-BERG** and **JUDITH SMITH**, UM communicators who won Best-in-Category awards in the DeRose/Hinkhouse competition sponsored by the Religious Public Relations Council. In the motion picture category, Dunlap-Berg won for the film "Giving Starts a Chain Reaction"; Smith's award in the national magazine group was for Pockets, an Upper Room children's magazine. Former UMC staff member **LYNDELL D. SMITH** received an award of excellence for the newspaper she now edits for the Sisters of Providence in Holyoke, MA.

To **JOAN COLLISON**, who received an award from the Kansas Region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews for her work in "bridging the gap between the races." She was chairperson of the Kansas West Conference Commission on Religion and Race for five years.

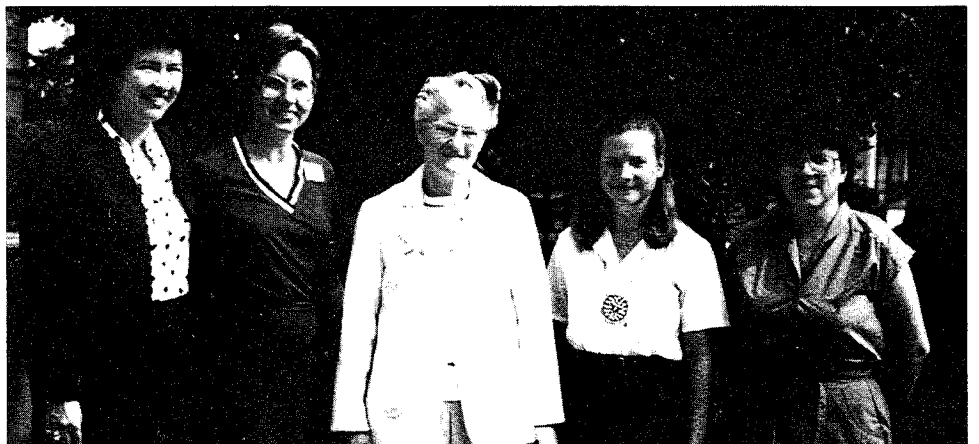
To **LOIS WILSON**, of Kingston, Ontario, immediate past moderator of the United Church of Canada; **DAME NITA BARROW**, a Methodist from Barbados; and **MARGA BUEHRIG**, of Zurich Switzerland and a member of the Swiss Reformed Church, who were elected three of the seven presidents of the World Council of Churches. Among the 23 new Central Committee members are United Methodist women **RENA KAREFA-SMART**, **OLIVA MUCHENA**, **THERESSA HOOVER**, **JANICE LOVE** and **SYLVIA TALBOT**.

To **BARBARA G. ANDERSON**, professor of anthropology, and **ALESSANDRA COMINI**, professor of art history, who were appointed to Southern Methodist's newly-created category of University Distinguished Professors.

To **JANIE ASAPH**, who was appointed Assistant General Secretary in the Benefits department for the Board of Pensions. She has been with the board as an analyst and benefits specialist since July, 1981.

To **CATHERINE M. DUNLAP**, vice chairperson of the General Board of Publication, who has been named director of financial aid for Methodist Theological School, Delaware, OH.

To **PROJECT WOMAN**, celebrating its tenth anniversary. The Springfield, Ohio-based feminist organization was founded by two United Methodist ministers (with a grant from the UMC Board of Global Ministries) to eliminate sexism in that city's schools, churches and businesses. Current projects include a 24-hour crisis line for victims of rape and battering, a shelter house for victims and their children, a counselor, library, speaker's bureau and monthly newsletter, "She Is." Congratulations!



Five of the seven new women district superintendents present at a recent training event: (from left to right) at Townsend (NY Conf.), Sie Hassinger (E.PA), Elizabeth Isaac (Detroit), Marianne Swenson (PNW), Faith Conklin (PSW). Not pictured: Barbara Maines (WNY), Ellen Brubaker (W. MI).

SELECTED RESOURCES

TO CHANGE THE WORLD: CHRISTOLOGY AND CULTURAL CRITICISM. In this book feminist theologian Rosemary Radford Ruether argues that one's portrayal of Jesus ultimately expresses one's own normative statement about the Christian message to the world today. She then deals with questions of Christology and feminism ("Can a Male Savior Save Women?"), Jewish-Christian relations, Latin American liberation theology, and ecology. Available, \$8.95 hb, from The Crossroad Publishing Co. 575, Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10022.

WE HAVE BEEN THERE. Three women, each with mentally retarded children or siblings, have compiled a collection of intimate vignettes on how families "share the joys and struggles of living with mental retardation." Guidebook contains sections on surviving the initial news, preschoolers, school-aged children, when children move out, what of brothers and sisters, the Association for Retarded Citizens, social services, and anger. Easy, basic introduction to the subject. Abingdon, 1983.

SADAKO AND THE THOUSAND PAPER CRANES. Author Eleanor Coerr tells the increasingly familiar story of a Japanese girl who died at age 12, a victim of the atom bomb dropped on her home, Hiroshima. The paper cranes she was folding for healing and luck have become a symbol of peace and hope worldwide. A beautiful children's story published by Yearling, Dell Publishing Co., 1977. \$1.25 pb.

IN THE SKY OVER NAGASAKI. An "A-bomb reader for children," written from the point of view of a camphor tree which underwent the atomic bombing at Nagasaki but survived. Moving translation from the Japanese. From the Peace Resource Center, Hiroshima/Nagasaki Memorial Collection, Box 1183, Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH 45177. 1980. \$3.50 pb.

MENNONITE WOMEN: A STORY OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS, 1683-1983. Traces history of Swiss, South German and Alsatian Mennonites in North America, bringing to the light stories of wives, mothers, "aunts," deaconesses, teachers, missionaries, and health-care workers. Much primary source material makes this a useful account of one strain of Christianity. Herald Press, 1983. \$9.95 pb.

IN A DIFFERENT VOICE. Author Carol Gilligan challenges traditional models of psychological theory and moral development (Freud, Erikson, Levinson, Vaillant, Kohlberg) and suggests that women's patterns of moral development differ significantly from men's. An important work exploring women's sense of relationship, self, morality, maturity. Harvard University Press, 1982.

SLAVERY, SABBATH, WAR AND WOMEN: CASE ISSUES IN BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION. After providing some general principles for biblical interpretation, author Willard M. Swartley looks at how the Bible has been interpreted on each of these four controversial issues. With regard to women, he cites two opposing views: "hierarchical" and "liberationist." The author's primary focus is on using and interpreting the Bible fairly and judiciously. Herald Press, 1983. \$15.95 pb.

THE COLOR PURPLE. Through the use of letters written in black dialect, author Alice Walker gives us a story of a southern black woman's despair, self-discovery and spirituality. Through early letters to God, then to a sister, Celie moves from abusive relationships to inner strength, and from a distant, alienating God to god in herself, with a fierce love. Harcourt Brace Javanovic, 1982, \$11.95 pb.

WOMEN'S LIVES: NEW THEORY, RESEARCH AND POLICY. Collection of academic papers from University of Michigan Center for Continuing Education of Women conference focusing on ways women's lives and development may differ from men's. Works of nearly 50 scholars from a dozen different disciplines also point to ways public policy can be better shaped to the needs of women's lives. Available for \$7.50 pb from University of Michigan, Center for Continuing Education of Women, 350 S. Thayer St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109. 1980.

SHAMELESS HUSSY PRESS. Publishers of children's books by children for children; "Our Mothers' Daughters," by Judith Arcana; "The Tenth Muse: Women Poets Before 1806;" and "Calamith Jane's Letters to Her Daughter." Write for catalog: Box 3092, Berkeley, CA 94703.

NEW RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND SEX ROLES. Papers from 1975 conference sponsored by Center for Continuing Education focus on changing sex roles; work, family and social change; status, power and politics; women and men: in and out of marriage; problems of women in higher education, women in English literature, women in media. Published 1976. \$6.00 pb. See ordering information in previous listing.

ANTOINETTE BROWN BLACKWELL. Biography by Elizabeth Cazden of one of early leaders in struggle for women's rights and first American woman to be ordained a Christian minister (1853). Numerous quotes from this feminist with strong religious beliefs spice biography. Available from the Feminist Press, Box 334, Old Westbury, NY 11568. 1983.

THE WOMEN AROUND JESUS. With references to art and church history, author Elisabeth Moltmann-Wendel explores the place of women in the early church. Martha, for example, historically was seen as a wise virgin, great mother, and dragon slayer. Uplifting insights into the Marys, women in Mark, mothers in Matthew, and Joanna. From the Crossroad Publishing Co., 1982. \$7.95 pb.

WOMANSONG. A program of classical vocal music composed by women is offered by soprano Margaret F. Arms with Ingrid Hansen at the piano; workshop on composers also available. Tape can be reviewed. Fee negotiable. Write Ingrid Hansen, 2084 Emerson, Denver, CO 80205.

THE FLYER, named after the Commission's butterfly symbol, is published as a communications link with Annual Conference Commissions. Items for possible insert should be sent—by the 15th of the month preceding publication—to THE FLYER, c/o the Commission office. No permission is needed to reprint; a credit line is requested. Annual Conference Commission members should send address changes to their chairpersons, not to the Commission office. Primary circulation for THE FLYER is through Annual Conference CSRWs; individual subscriptions are \$5.00, available from the GCSRW.

Next issue: December 1983 Patricia Broughton, Editor

Published by the United Methodist General Commission
on the Status and Role of Women
1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201 (312) 869-7330

COMMISSION TALENT SCOUT -8-

PRESIDENT, LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE. Responsible for planning, representing college, overseeing fund-raising, administration. College is small, residential, liberal arts, church-related. Contact F. Allen Rutherford, Chairperson, Presidential Search Committee and Board of Trustees, Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA 17003. Phone (717) 867-4411.

EXECUTIVE POSITION VACANCIES, GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES. 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115. Apply with Raymond Jones, Personnel Director, for referral.
Field Representative, Town and Country Ministries, National Division
Research Associate, National Div.
Assistant Treasurer, Women's Div.
Assistant General Secretary, Section of Mission Resources, Mission Education & Cultivation
Records Manager, Comptroller's Office
Assistant General Secretary for Administrative Services, National Div.
Associate for Computer Management, National Div.
Executive Secretary, Leadership Development, Women's Div.

JUNIOR FACULTY POSITION, SOCIAL ETHICS, YALE DIVINITY SCHOOL. Responsible for teaching, including doctoral students; work in the area of social justice; interdisciplinary work with faculty in wider university. Requires doctoral degree, teaching experience highly desirable. Three-year appointment beginning July, 1984. Deadline: Nov. 15. Send inquires and dossiers to Gene Outka, Chair, Social Ethics Search Committee, c/o Dean's Office, YDS, 409 Prospect St., New Haven, CT 06510.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE. Needs administrative secretary in Washington, D.C. office; peace education secretary in Dayton, Ohio; representative for nomad program in Mali; Central American international affairs representative(s); field director in Israel, West Bank and Gaza. For more information and positions contact AFSC Personnel Office, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102. Phone (215) 241-7105.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, UM PUBLISHING HOUSE. Develops, recommends and administers centralized corporate training budget, leads training events, develops library of training resources. Requires five years successful training experience in business/industry with proven skills in communications, organizing, human relations. Salary: Low to mid \$20s, depending on qualifications and experience. Apply with UM Publishing House Employment Office, 201 Eighth Ave., South, Nashville, TN. (615) 749-6294.



the commission on the status and role of women
the united methodist church

1200 davis street
evanston, illinois 60201
(312) 869-7330