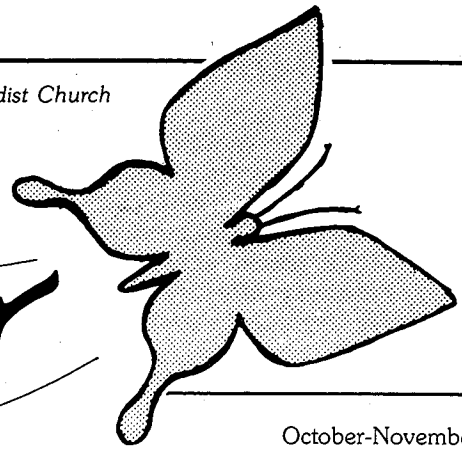


# The Flyer



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## Moving into 1988



(Above) Marylou Santillan Baert (left), faculty member at Perkins School of Theology and guest preacher, and Elizabeth Reed, GCSRW member, celebrate closing communion.

(Left) GCSRW President H. Sharon Howell and secretary Bert Pruess-Jones join in song under the meeting's theme, "We're All In This Together."

High energy and a full agenda marked the 1987 annual fall meeting of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, which began with President H. Sharon Howell's challenge "not to take the luxury of assuming our work done."

"I don't believe our work is done," Howell told members gathered in San Antonio September 24. The GCSRW's goal, she noted, is total inclusiveness for women in the church. "We have not yet gained equity," she said, concluding with her hope that the GCSRW wouldn't "simply set budget for 1988."

Howell's hope and the GCSRW's actions at the meeting concurred. The Commission set a record \$508,772 budget for 1988, and also moved full steam into the last year of the quadrennium:

\*authorizing an investigation of new charges of sexism at UM-related Boston

University School of Theology;

\*requesting the General Council on Finance and Administration to reconsider its ban on a \$1,000 GCSRW grant to a consultation of reconciling congregations;

\*approving legislation for the 1988 General Conference which advocates for women, including a petition for United Methodists to join in an ecumenical decade for women;

\*setting an invitational consultation on feminist spirituality for 1988;

\*approving monitoring of two seminaries (Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL, and METHESCO in Dayton, OH) in 1987 and 1988, and of the Board of Pensions; and

\*agreeing to offer the GCSRW's work on homophobia to General Conference delegates and others through a notice in the Commission's newsletter, "the Flyer."

## Returning to Boston

The GCSRW's decision to renew its investigation of charges of institutional sexism at Boston University School of Theology was at the request of Dr. Elizabeth Bettenhausen, an associate professor of theology and ethics at the seminary who was recently terminated. This request was followed by numerous other expressions of concern.

The GCSRW conducted an extensive on-site investigation in 1983-84 after the firing of staff member Nancy Richardson. While the seminary did hire a consultant recommended by the GCSRW, the GCSRW received no other response to its recommendations to address institutional sexism.

Schools of theology are directed, in paragraph 2203.8 of the 1984 *Book of Discipline* to "establish guidelines and policies for specific recruitment, training and full utilization of women in total employment which includes ... faculties and staff." The GCSRW is mandated, in the same paragraph, to "generate active concern and given full support toward immediate efforts in the fulfillment" of the directive.

Should equal opportunity violations be discovered, the *Discipline* gives the General Council on Finance and Administration the option of suspending funding until the agency or institution complies (paragraph 907.7 and 911.1).

The General Commission on Religion and Race, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, and other United Methodist bodies will be asked to cooperate in the investigation. Both Bettenhausen's individual case and wider issues of systemic sexism which appear to be unresolved at the seminary will be investigated. A joint team composed of members and staff persons of GCSRW and GCOOR will visit the seminary as soon as can be scheduled.

## Reconsider funding ban

Calling the action arbitrary and capricious," members of the GCSRW agreed to ask the General Council on Finance and Administration (GCFA) to reconsider its

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# Options for Action

**Northern Illinois** — Extensive CSRW monitoring of balloting, business sessions and worship marked the 1987 annual conference. Representatives from the CSRW spoke to the clergy session and representatives from the Commission on Religion and Race spoke to the lay session the first evening of annual conference. The CSRW monitored business sessions, the CORR worship (clergy/lay, men/women). During each third ballot for general and jurisdictional conference delegates a monitoring committee, composed of representatives from both commissions, orally reported and called attention to inclusiveness.

**North Indiana** — The struggle continues to get response and recognition for the CSRW series of Equitable Appointment studies. CSRW members felt the cabinet's report to the 1987 annual conference did not respond to the 1986 mandate from the conference for it to deal with the studies. "Instead, the report criticized the studies without directly responding to their content, simply calling them 'inaccurate,'" the CSRW's June minutes report. The president of the cabinet has agreed to assign a district superintendent to the commission task force for the next study. The assigned district superintendent will assist in designing the methodology and in interpreting data gathered.

**South Dakota** — "I felt we made a positive showing at annual conference," reports CSRW chair Jinny Tarver. "Those of us who passed out the 'Say a Healing Word' buttons had a good experience doing it and delegates were pretty faithful in wearing them. I was especially thrilled when our conference speaker, Rev. Bob Tuttle, made reference to the one he wore and the importance of equality on two occasions from the podium!"

Kansas East's handbook for local church SRW chairs had, with permission, been adapted and duplicated and was available.

Rev. Kristan Burkert, chair of the GCSRW Issues Development, Education and Advocacy work unit, led a one-day retreat entitled "Womanspirit: A Fresh Look at Feminist Spirituality," for the CSRW in early October. One of the main purposes of the retreat was to allow women, clergy in particular, to gather for networking, support and inspiration.

**South Indiana** — Some 156 persons at the CSRW breakfast at annual conference recognized Ann Sablan, first clergywomen elected to General Conference (as well as the conference's first woman district superintendent). She leads the delegation. Laywomen nominated by their local churches as outstanding were also recognized.

**Iowa** — Five common concerns emerged during planning sessions for the next biennium at the CSRW's fall retreat:

- \* re-defining power
- \* bridging the generation gap
- \* refining a more inclusive inclusive language
- \* theological education and dialogue
- \* connecting.

**Florida** — Visibility was good "and gave us credibility and increased participation and support at the May annual conference," reports CSRW chair Martha Rutland-Wallis. Yellow ribbons, a daily luncheon dialogue (with Native American Mable Haught, Rev. Charlene Kammerer (district superintendent and former GCSRW member), Bishop Forrest C. Stith and Rev. Barbara Riddle (both current GCSRW members), and a performance by musicians Carole Etzler and Brenda Chambers highlighted the CSRW presence.

"Our most troubling concern still surrounds who we are. How are we nominated? And how do we relate to the Council on Ministries?" The bishop ruled the CSRW is under the COM budget and program, she reports.

**California-Nevada** — Two issues concerning clergywomen received the support of the CSRW and the annual conference at its 1987 session. Parental leave was extended, and part-time service granted as equivalency for probationary members.

The CSRW, in response to a request from the conference committee on the episcopacy, has stated it would like the next bishop (among other things) to be a woman, to put pressure on ministers to be serious

**Central Illinois** — The CSRW publishes its own edition of "the Flyer." The September, 1987, issue focuses on women and children, and contains articles, suggestions to help local church committees evaluate children's ministries (from a feminist perspective), resources, and a poem. Subscriptions are \$2 annually, available from Vaudra Rushing, P.O. Box 515, 1211 N. Park St., Bloomington, IL 61702-0515.

**Oregon-Idaho** — Networking among clergywomen brought results with the election of three of their number to the General Conference delegation, the CSRW reports. The clergywomen met in caucus several months before the annual conference to decide "which of our many talented women to promote as delegates." The CSRW sent letters to each voting clergy asking for support, and all three were elected. When those were elected, "we actively campaigned for young male candidates to balance the predominance of white district superintendents selected, and were successful in swinging votes to one young man as an alternate."

about issues such as inclusive language and image, and to give serious consideration to women clergy appointments (e.g. women being appointed to larger and more prestigious congregations).

An extensive survey of local church leadership, designed to give a picture of patterns of women's and men's leadership in local church, revealed, among other information, the following:

Local Church Boards of Trustees Survey Results (1987)  
California-Nevada Annual Conference

District	#churches in district	#churches reporting	# churches w/ at least 1/3 women	#churches w/ no women	#churches w/ woman as chair
Bay View	57	34	20	0	6*
Delta	66	45	32	0	4*
Fresno	68	41	24	1	4*
Golden Gate	57	34	23	0	6*
Nevada Sierra	36	26	22	1	6*
San Jose	53	31	22	2	5*
Shasta	50	30	22	1	6*
Total	387	241	165	5	37*

\*At the time the surveys were returned, not all Trustees had elected chairs for 1987; so these figures may be slightly higher.

# In search of a 'grander, more equitable polity:' Election of women delegates to the 1888 General Conference

*(The 1988 General Conference marks the 100-year anniversary of the election of women as delegates to general conferences. Fortunately, the story behind and around this historic conference has been preserved to be retold:)*

"I confidently predict that we five women, whose election was thus disavowed, will have more enviable places in history than any who opposed us on those memorable days. Of them it will be written, while doubtless they did not so intend, that they committed an injustice: of us, only that in silence we endured it."

So wrote Frances E. Willard in her autobiography, "Glimpses of Fifty Years," reflecting on the struggle — and failure — to seat the first women elected delegates to the 1888 Methodist General Conference in New York.

Although women had been chosen as alternate delegates to previous general conferences, they had never appeared on the roll of seated delegates. Five women, from five separate conferences, were elected delegates to the 1888 conference: Willard, by the Rock River Conference in Illinois; Mary Ninde of Minnesota, president of the Methodist Women's Foreign Missionary Society and leader of the Women's Christian Temperance Union; Amanda C. Rippey, head of the Kansas Conference delegation; Angie Newman of Nebraska; and Lizzie Van Kirk of Pittsburgh.

Willard writes in her autobiography that she had no anxiety about being seated, despite contentions from well-known opponents of women's rights that she would not be allowed to take her seat.

"I had always thought that no fair-minded person could have a doubt of their inherent right to go, since women constitute at least two thirds of the church membership, bear more than one half of its burdens, and have patiently conceded to the brethren, during all generations, its emoluments and honors."

As the meeting approached, the Methodist establishment divided on the question of women delegates. On May 1, 1888, the 25th General Conference was called to order. The "woman question," which the *New York Times* saw as the most important decision the conference would make in 1888, came to the floor first. Willard, having been called home to be with her ailing mother, was not among those present to be seated; at least two of the women, Ninde and Newman, were.



Frances Willard

Senior Bishop Thomas Bowman, at the opening of the convention, declared that if women were "included in the original constitutional provision for lay delegates they would then be entitled to their seats," but if not so included, it was beyond the power of the convention "lawfully to admit them," which could be done only by the consent of the regional conferences. The report of the committee on eligibility, signed by 11 of the 17 members, stated that women were not eligible as lay delegates because ... "the Church contemplated the admission of men only as lay representatives."

Mary Earhart, writing in a biography of Frances Willard published in 1944, notes that "the technical point upon which the discussion, lasting nearly a week, hinged, was the interpretation of 'laymen' — did this mean 'men' or 'men and women'?"

When the vote was finally taken on Monday, May 7, the resolution to seat women was defeated in both lay and ministerial votes.

Willard was particularly distressed by the vote of the laymen, who had been reminded earlier by one of the lay male delegates that lay representation, voted upon in 1868, would have been defeated if the women had not supported it.

Willard wrote: "When I read that the lay delegates gave a majority against the admission of women, and remembered that the vote of women, as they well knew, at the time of the debate on the eligibility of the laity to the General Conference, had forced open its doors to the laymen who now deliberately voted to exclude women, I had no more spirit in me. Once more it was a case of 'Thou, too, Brutus!'"

Willard's pessimism did not last long. She concludes her reflections on the events: "The champions of equality made a splendid record, of which they will be prouder with each added year. They are forerunners of that grander, because more equitable, polity that shall yet glorify our Methodism when in her law, as in Christ's gospel, there shall be 'Neither male nor female.'"

In the years following the 1888 General Conference Willard and other members of the WCTU continued to strategize. Women won the lay vote in 1892, but the ministerial vote was negative. Victory was finally achieved in 1896 when the full conference voted to accept women as delegates to the 1904 assembly where they took their seats.

—information taken from Willard's autobiography; "Frances Willard," a biography by Ruth Bordin, and Earhart's biography, "Frances Willard: From Prayers to Politics."



**Maine** — Beginning in September, members of the CSRW began sitting in on all board and agency meetings as monitors, to provide assistance and lift up women's concerns.

The CSRW presented its annual award (see below) to Rev. Lynne Josselyn, first woman to be named as conference chaplain, and the conference's second woman district superintendent. The award recognizes a person who has "worked to open doors of opportunity for women, and creatively made others aware of women's issues," Josselyn was a member of the GCSRW from 1973 to 1980.

(left to right) Rev. Lynne Josselyn receives award from CSRW chairperson Susan Davenport and CSRW members. (Photo by Ann Whiting, Zion's Herald newspaper)

# Into 1988

Continued from page 1

decision to stop a \$1,000 grant to a convocation for Reconciling Congregation held last March.

The GCSRW has also asked for the GCFA to develop guidelines as to what constitutes "promoting the acceptance of homosexuality."

The GCFA invoked disciplinary paragraph 906.12 for the first time since its insertion in *The Book of Discipline* in 1976, claiming that a workshop on "rituals for gay and lesbian lives" was in violation of the paragraph which prohibits use of United Methodist funds to "promote the acceptance of homosexuality." The Reconciling Congregations program is a network of almost 30 UM churches who have "publicly declared their ministries to be open to all persons, including lesbians and gay men."

The GCSRW Coordinating Committee, in a prepared paper, objected to the lack of "courtesy and good faith" in the GCFA decision-making process.

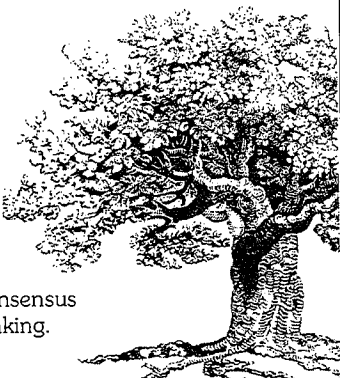
## Advocating for women

"Sexual harassment" would be added as a chargeable offense for clergy under legislation approved by the GCSRW for the 1988 General Conference. Other legislation calls for an equal number of women and men in the pool of Judicial Council nominees, and for representation of "Africans, Asians, Hispanics, Pacific Islanders, Asian-Americans, Black Americans and Native Americans."

The GCSRW approved development of a proposal for a \$15,000 World Service contingency grant from the General Council on Ministries for a gathering of 25 to 30 annual conference women staff members. The gathering would provide networking, support, and identification of issues.

GCSRW member Laura Echols Hudson, reporting on the National Youth Ministries Organization Convocation she attended as GCSRW liaison, expressed concern over the meeting process, in particular the use of parliamentary procedure. Additionally, "youth had no vision of women leading a theological or spiritual experience," Hudson reported.

At the request of one youth coordinator at the event, the GCSRW is investigating providing an easy reference booklet outlining consensus decision-making.



## Participation of Women Increasing

The participation of women in local churches, both as committee members and as committee chairs, continued its steady increase, quadrennial statistics gathered by the GCSRW show.

The greatest increase in the percentage of women members was on boards of trustees, increasing from 20.7 percent in 1983 to 31.7 percent in 1987, coming close to the 1/3 mandated in GCSRW-sponsored legislation approved at the 1984 General Conference.

The percentage of women members increased on every committee except three (Council on Ministries, down 3 percent; Children, down .1 percent; Youth, down .4 percent). Women form the majority of members in all but two areas: boards of trustees and committees on finance.

Women as a percentage of chairpersons increased from 1983 to 1987 on all but the

committee on nominations and personnel, where the percentage of women chairing fell 6 percent (from 20.7 percent to 14.0 percent).

As in the past, men are more likely to be on and chair the organizations with church-wide authority, such as the administrative board and trustees, as well as run the "money committees." Women are likely to be on the age-level and program councils of the church except stewardship.

Survey results are based on responses from 556 local churches of 1,000 polled; the results are weighted to ensure the racial composition of the sample mirrors the racial composition of the denomination. This is the fifth quadrennium the research has been conducted as a random, comprehensive survey of the participation of women in local churches.

## Diaconal Ministers Tell Pain

"Considerable pain" exists among women who are diaconal ministers in the United Methodist Church, the head of the Division of Diaconal Ministry told members of the GCSRW at their fall, 1987 meeting.

In many cases diaconal ministers are isolated and have a sense of abandonment, Rosalie Bentsinger of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry said. Addi-

tionally, female diaconal ministers have been paid substantially less than men doing the same kinds of ministry, a survey several years ago showed. Data from a new survey being compiled is expected to produce the same results. Approximately two-thirds of the 1,200 diaconal ministers in the denomination are women, Bentsinger said.

## UM Com Confronts Sexism

Three recent workshops on sexism with staff and commission of United Methodist Communications (UMCom) were "very effective," and have resulted in several changes, a liaison from UMCom told members of the GCSRW at their fall, 1987, meeting.

GCSRW staff worked with the UMCom staff, both in designing and staffing the workshops. Leadership was provided by a Black female and White male: Carolyn Johnson and Sam Phillips for directors and

staff meetings in New York, and Jualynne Dodson and Sam Phillips for a staff meeting in Nashville.

Five women's support groups, each with a particular focus, now exist in Nashville, UMCom staffer Laura Okumu reported. One is working on a corporate approach to day care. The agency has also, as a result of the Nashville staff workshop, contracted with a Black female clinical psychologist for job-related staff counseling there.

## Ecumenical Decade for Women

United Methodist delegates to the 1988 General Conference will be asked to approve a resolution to join in an ecumenical decade of churches in solidarity with women, the GCSRW agreed at its fall, 1987, meeting. The Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries and the General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns have endorsed similar resolutions.

The decade, proposed by the World Council of Churches at its January, 1987, meeting, invites churches to build on the momentum of the United Nations Decade for Women, which ended in 1985. Three focal points are recommended for the

decade:

\*women's full participation: includes the question of power, power sharing and empowerment; women's presence on decision-making bodies and in bodies where ideas (e.g. theology, public policy) and plans are developed;

\*women's visions and perspectives, concerns and commitments related to Justice, Peace and the Integrity of creation;

\*women doing theology and sharing spirituality: how can an integrated process of study, sharing, acting and celebrating be enabled?

The decade is to be launched beginning at Easter, 1988.

## Church and Society to Study Homophobia

In response to a request from the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, the CBCS Executive Committee voted in late summer to study the issues of homophobia and their impact on the church. The following recommendations were approved:

1. That the RASH (Racism, Ageism, Sexism, Handicappism) Task Force and the Biblical/Theological Panel of the board do a thorough study of the GCSRW document on homophobia and sexism.
2. That the staff, in consultation with board directors of the panel and task force, plan a consultation in 1988 with local church leaders in the Washington, DC, area.
3. That the results of the study be shared with the GCSRW and other constituents.

— from the July/August, 1987, "Current Scene," staff/board newsletter of the GBCS

## Lesbian Minister Suspended After Church Trial

A jury of 13 United Methodist clergy Aug. 24 found the Rev. Rose Mary Denman, a self-avowed lesbian, guilty of violating church law barring homosexuals from the ordained ministry, but assessed the "least (severe) sentence we could choose" and suspended her from the ministry until the 1988 New Hampshire Annual Conference session.

"The trial court wanted to provide as much support for a reconciling ministry as possible to allow Rose Mary to explore her options," the Rev. Janet Smith-Rushton of Walpole, Mass., jury chairwoman, told reporters after the nine-hour proceedings in a small church hall in Dover, N.H. Denman, who has been on leave of absence and working in Portland, Maine, has said she will become a minister in the Unitarian Universalist Association later this year.

The jury vote of 11-2 on the guilty verdict and 12-1 on the suspension was seen by some observers as middle ground between the church's recommendation that Denman be ousted from the ministry, and her request to extend her leave while she seeks to enter the Unitarian Universalist ministry. The trial was the first in United Methodism under a 1976 provision in the church law barring self-avowed practicing homosexuals from the ordained ministry. That provision of the church's discipline will be reviewed at the 1988 General Conference in late April, 1988.

— from the "Methodists Make News," Aug. 28, 1987

## NCC Surveys Prostitution Ministries

"Ministries that target prostitutes as objects of reform are ineffective and are not theologically sound," was the message heard and affirmed at a two-day Consultation on Ministry with Women in Prostitution, sponsored by the National Council of Churches in late September.

What is needed, participants said, is a non-judgmental approach to women in prostitution, and an openness that allows the women a say in how they wish to be helped.

The Council's Working Group on Justice for Women called the consultation to learn more about successful ministries with women engaged in prostitution, as preparation for setting national ecumenical directions in this area.

The invitational meeting drew some 30 women. Among them were three women currently working as prostitutes, women who staff programs that minister to women in "the life," as prostitution is called, and members of the working group's subunit on violence against women.

— from an NCC press release, Sept. 30, 1987

## UCC Okays Women's Agency

The United Church of Christ marked its 30th anniversary by creating a permanent agency to advocate women's rights. Approval for the permanent women's agency, known as the Coordinating Center for Women, came after strong resistance from some in the church who opposed the separate agency. Supporters argued that women's issues would be overlooked unless women could participate in decision-making on an equal basis with other agency heads.

— from the July 17 issue of "Inside the American Religion Scene," newsletter of the Religious News Service

## A Little Historical Perspective — and Correction

From Barbara E. Campbell, Assistant General Secretary of the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministry, comes this response to an item in the last *Flyer* announcing the creation of a second women's seminary chair:

"A little historical perspective is needed here," Campbell wrote. "In 1922 the Woman's Society of the United Brethren Church set aside \$75,000 for a Vera B.

Blinn Chair of Missions at Bonebrake Theological Seminary (now United Seminary in Dayton). Ms. Blinn had started work as a youth secretary and moved through several offices/positions from 1912-1920.

"In 1930, the Woman's Missionary Society of the Evangelical Church set aside \$50,000 for the Mrs. E.M. Spreng Memorial Chair of Missions at Evangelical Seminary, Naperville. Mrs. Spreng had been national president from 1892-1922 of the missionary society of the Evangelical Association, and from 1922-24 of the similar group in the Evangelical Church.

"Two other endowed chairs were also established at Scarritt, which was never a seminary, but was a college and graduate school since the mid-1920s."



## Women Affirmed as Bishops

Nine women were named as possible candidates for election to the church's episcopacy in 1988 by clergywomen participating in a national consultation in August. Twelve bishops will be chosen by jurisdictional conferences to fill vacancies, including one created by the retirement of Leontine T. C. Kelly of San Francisco, one of two current women bishops.

The nine suggested were the Revs. Helen Gray Crotwell, Fayetteville, N.C.; Mary Lou Santillan Baert, Dallas; Diedra H. Kriewald, Washington; Patricia Townsend, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Mamie A. Williams, Baltimore; Sharon Brown Christopher, Sun Prairie, Wisc.; Sandra F. Hoke, LaGrange, Ill.; Joan S. Hoover, Dubuque, Iowa; and Sharon Zimmerman Rader, East Lansing, Mich.

The South Carolina Conference delegation to the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference acknowledged "with pride and gratitude the endorsement by the Southeastern Jurisdiction Clergywomen's Caucus of Helen G. Crotwell," a conference elder. The South Carolina delegates nominated their first Black candidate for bishop and reaffirmed a 1986 statement saying the conference would welcome appointment of a Black or woman bishop.

— from "Methodists Make News," Aug. 28, Sept. 11 and "Newscope," Sept. 18

# Ovations

To **Cynthia Clarkson Quillen** and **Naomi Gaines Winchester**, who were consecrated as diaconal ministers in the Peninsula conference, the conference's first. Quillen is Director of Christian Education for Whatcoat UMC in Camden, DE and Winchester is Aging Ministries Consultant for Peninsula United Methodist Homes, Inc.

To **Elaine** and **Gayle Schoepf**, daughter and mother, who were both ordained to the ministry in what is believed to be the first ever joint mother-daughter ordination. The ordination services took place at a Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregation.

To **Elaine Mock Sollenberger**, who was elected the first woman moderator-elect at the last annual conference of the Church of the Brethren. She is a dairy farmer and previously chaired the denomination's General Board, which oversees the church's programs around the world. She will be installed as moderator of the annual conference next year.

To **Carole K. Stockberger**, who was recognized at the Virginia annual conference as recipient of an award for outstanding contribution to the cause of evangelism in the Southeast Jurisdiction.

To **Karen J. Tisinger**, communications director for the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives, who has been named Iowa Conference communications director.

To **Mary Alexander (Molly) Yard** of Ligonier, PA, daughter of Maybelle and James Yard, who served as Methodist missionaries in China, who is the newly elected president of the National Organization for Women.

To **Judith Craig**, Michigan area bishop and a member of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and two other women who met with Pope John Paul II during his recent U.S. visit. **Jeanne Audrey Powers**, associate general secretary of the General Commission on Christian United and Interreligious Concerns, and Bishop **Leontine T.C. Kelly** (San Francisco), were invited to ecumenical gatherings for the Pope.

To **Nancy Grissom Self**, member of the General Secretariat, who, 21 years after completing seminary, is pursuing ordination in The United Methodist Church.

To **Judy Weidman**, editor/director of the Religious News Service (RNS), who was named UMAC's 1987 "Communicator of the Year." She also received UMAC's award of excellence in newsletters for RNS' inter-faith publication, "Inside the American Religious Scene."

To **Elizabeth B. Gundlach**, of Palm Bay, Fla., who has been elected vice president of the United Methodist Judicial Council, the churches highest court, succeeding the late Florence V. Lucas.

To **Pat Callbeck Harper**, laywoman from Helene, MT, and to **Shirley Parris**, laywoman from New York City, who will chair the Yellowstone and New York Conference delegations, respectively, at the 1988 General Conference. They join nine other women, including two clergywomen, who head General Conference delegations.

To **Terri J. Hiers**, of Nashville, who received an award of excellence in magazines from the United Methodist Association of Communicators (UMAC) for her work as editor of Orientation, published by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

To **H. Sharon Howell**, president of the GCSRW, who is the newly elected Director of the Council on Ministries in the Kansas East Conference.

To **B. Elizabeth Marchant**, of Edison, N.J., a writer, artist, photographer and filmmaker, who was inducted into the UMAC Hall of Fame. Her career in mission interpretation with the General Board of Global Ministries spanned 37 years.

To **Delores Langley**, who recently completed a year as the first woman intern in British Methodism's famed Wesley's Chapel. Langley, a graduate of Duke University Divinity School, also worked in the chaplaincy program at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London as part of her internship. Another woman from the United States, Andrea Pritts, a student at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, will be the intern during the 1987-88 academic year.

To **Karen Lebacqz**, professor of Christian ethics at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif., who was one of the featured speakers at the 16th annual Palmer lecture series at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash. Lebacqz, who has written and lectured widely on issues including feminist ethics, discussed her ongoing research on "Intimacy in the Parish — Problems of Living and Working in the Public Eye."

To **Dolores Magnum-Allen**, who received a Western New York conference scholarship for women entering the ordained ministry as a second career. The scholarship was created by the CSRW and Bishop Forrest Stith in memory of Barbara Maines, a district superintendent killed in an automobile accident in 1985. Magnum-Allen is a local pastor and works for social services in Rochester, NY.

To **Roberts Hestenes**, an ordained Presbyterian minister and associate professor at Fuller Theological Seminary, who has been elected president of Eastern College in Philadelphia. She is believed to be the first woman ever chosen to head an evangelical four-year liberal arts college.

To the **57 women** who received some \$40,000 in **Georgia Harkness Scholarships**, awarded annually to second career women over 35 who are studying for the ordained ministry. One hundred and one persons from 44 Annual Conferences applied for the scholarships.

To **Haviland C. Houston**, for five and a half years of services as general secretary of the General Board of Church and Society; she asked in June not to be renominated this fall. Houston said she plans to begin a book, after taking some personal time. Bishop **Leontine Kelly** was appointed chair of the search committee for her successor.

To **Susan Keirn Kester**, associate council director for communications, who is the first Peninsula conference clergywoman ever elected as a delegate to General Conference.

To **three women** who were among eleven persons and two auxiliaries honored during the annual convention of United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries. Honored were **Plyna Strong**, Grand Rapids, MI; **Diana Carleton**, Chicago; and **Carolyn Cox**, Hermitage, TN.

To **three women**, one White, one Black, and one Hispanic, who were among five persons recently employed as assistant general secretaries at the General Board of Pensions: **Lori Gill Conner**, **Elina Dorado**, and **Anne Elizabeth Streaty Wimberly**. The other two new assistant general secretaries are a White and an Asian male.

## In remembrance:

Of **Florence V. Lucas**, vice president of the Judicial Council since 1976 and a practicing attorney, who died Sept. 6 after a long illness, in Rosedale, NY.

Of **Nelle Morton**, a noted feminist theologian and human rights activist, who died July 14 at the age of 82 in Claremont, Calif. Morton was a professor of Christian education on her retirement in 1971 from Drew University Theological School. From 1970 until her death she was widely known as an advocate of women's rights, publishing in 1985 a collection of essays on the subject, entitled "The Journey is Home."

# Resources

**God of Our Mothers.** Author Martha Ann Kirk, C.C.V.I., and six other narrators, tell the stories of seven Biblical women. Accompanying guide offers a format for group listening, discussion and prayer as well as suggestions for journal keeping. Boxed set of two cassettes and guide available from St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1615 Republic St., Cincinnati, OH 45210, for \$17.95 (includes \$1.00 for shipping).

**The Motherhood of God.** Report of a study group composed of six members of the women's Guild of the Church of Scotland and four ministers of the church's Panel on Doctrine, commissioned in 1982. When the two-year study was completed, the Church of Scotland voted not to receive the report; St. Andrews Press published it independently, and United Presbyterian Women has made it available in the US. Publication, entitled "Motherhood of God," with accompanying Bible study, "What on Earth Is God Like?" are available from COWAC, Room 1151, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10015-0095 for \$3.95.

**Cry of Ramah.** Songbook and cassette tape of music by Colleen Fulmer, with dances by Martha Ann Kirk, CCVI. Eighteen songs and dances that "cry out for peace and justice, celebrating feminine images of God." Excellent worship and personal devotional resource, with instructions for liturgical movement for each song. Available from Loretta Spirituality Network, 529 Pamona Ave., Albany, CA 94706. (415) 525-4174. Cost: \$7 for tape plus \$1 shipping; booklet \$4.

**We Will Not Hang Our Harps on the Willows: Engagement and Spirituality.** Woman pastor, Barbel von Wartenberg-Potter, provides moving account of a spiritual pilgrimage, raising questions out of the global women's movement. German feminist theologian Dorothee Sölle writes: "A gift of hope for those who are in need of a different heaven and earth ... for women struggling, women suffering, women yearning for justice." Pb, \$7.75, from the World Council of Churches. Distributed by the US Office of the WCC, 475 Riverside Dr., Room 1062, New York, NY 10015. (212) 870-2533.

**Superwoman Goes Home: A Diet and Exercise Manifesto.** "The story of one woman's intentions to grow up, begun as a 40th birthday gift to herself," by Donna Schaper. Delightful "handmade" booklet reflecting on "a diet of work that nurtures instead of depleting; exercises that keep the caring muscles alert." Order for \$5 from Schaper, 103 First St., Riverhead, New York 10901.

**Hildegard of Bingen's Medicine.** First translation of Hildegard of Bingen's (12th century medical doctor and spiritual director) medical books into English. Incorporates healing of body, mind and soul; translation by Dr. Wighard Strehlow and Gottfried Hertzka, MD. Bear & Co., 1987.

**Council on Interracial Books for Children, Inc.** Publishers of resources "to counter racism, sexism and other forms of bias in school and society." Catalog includes filmstrips, lesson plans, curricula, books, pamphlets and newsletter, "Bulletin," (\$12/yr). "Fact Sheets on Institutional Sexism" provides current statistics on sexism in U.S. institutions. Contact the council, 1841 Broadway, New York, NY 10023. (212) 757-5339.

**Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights.** Publishes a variety of resources on abortion, relating to hospitals, the Bible, religious freedom, ethical questions, the Supreme Court, theology and politics, rape and incest. Poster and videos also available. Contact the RCAR, 100 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20002.

**PAUMCS Newsletter.** The Professional Association of United Methodist Church Secretaries' quarterly newsletter. Purpose is to encourage and enable members to be faithful and effective in ministry throughout the UMC. For subscription information contact membership secretary Joyce Kuehn, 300 Pecos Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80911-1129.

**Psalm Journal.** Prayer resource written by Joan Chittister, prioress of Benedictine community in Erie, Pa., for sisters in her community to develop life of contemplative prayer while moving from "distraction to distraction, task to task, meeting to meeting." Establishes weekly pattern for prayer, with space for written reflections. Published by Leaven Press, P.O. Box 40292, Kansas City, MO 64141 for \$6.95.

**Vox Benedictina.** Quarterly journal makes available rich heritage of women's monastic spirituality from early church until now. Lay persons, religious, Catholics, Protestants included. Available from Peregrina Publishing Co., 409 Garrison Crescent, Saskatoon, Sask., Canada S7H 2Z9 for \$15/yr.

**Her Story: Women in Christian Tradition.** Survey of Christian history focusing on women's exclusion and inclusion, by Barbara J. MacHaffie. Chapters include "Biblical Images of Women," "Virgin and Witch," "Agents of Transformation." Fortress Press, 1986. \$9.95 pb.

## The Divorce Revolution: The Unexpected Social Economic Consequences for Women and Children in Society.

Recommended by Jane Hull Harvey of the General Board of Church and Society's Justice for Women program as "required reading for every member of the United Methodist Church: a powerful book (which) lays bare a social tragedy the Church ... can no longer ignore." The Free Press (division of Macmillan, Inc.), 1985.

**Religious Network for Equality for Women.** Coalition of 41 Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and other faith groups working for justice for women, especially the elimination of poverty and legal inequalities. Publishes a newsletter, other educational material. Write RNEW, 475 Riverside Dr., Room 830-A, New York, NY 10115.

**Women's Review of Books.** Now entering its fifth year of publication, with 10,500 copies circulating monthly, publication provides readers with reviews of the increasing number of books by, for and about women. From the Wellesley College Center for Research on Women, Wellesley, MA 02181. Subscriptions \$14/yr.

**This Tough Spun Web.** Sixteen songs of global struggle and solidarity, with accompanying action/reflection/song book. Written by Carolyn McDade and produced by the Womancenter at Plainville. Contact the center, 76 Everett Skinner Road, Plainville, MA 02762. (617) 699-7167. Tape \$8, book \$5; mailing \$2.

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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# Calendar

# Commission Talent Scout

Nov. 12-14 **National Convocation on Diaconal Ministry.** First convocation celebrating ten years of diaconal ministry in the UMC. In St. Louis, MO. Contact the Division of Diaconal Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, 1001 Nineteenth Ave., South, PO Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202-0871. (615) 340-7375.

Nov. 13-15 **Celebrating Women's Lives.** Using women's diaries, letters, autobiographies and biographies, women will trace struggles of women historically, then fashion rituals to celebrate women's lives. Cost: \$95-125. At Grailville, 932 O'Bannonville Road, Loveland, OH 45140.

April 12-16, 1988 **Women's History Workshops.** Series of one-day events sponsored by the Kansas West Commission on Archives and History. Contact Dr. A. Mark Conard, 2801 Coolidge, Wichita, KS 67204.

May 26-28, 1988 **Women's Journeys, Feminine Images of God: How Do They Enrich Congregational Life?** Workshop sponsored by the Alban Institute, primarily for lay and ordained women. Under leadership of Celia Allison Hahn and Susan Blackburn Heath, participants will explore biblical images and stories, their own religious experience, and experiences in home communities. In Washington, DC. Contact the Alban Institute, Inc., 4125 Nebraska Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20016. (800) 457-8893.

June 20-July 1 **Ecumenical Moment '88: God's Call for Unity.** Intensive ecumenical living and learning experience including lectures, conversations, Bible study, small seminars, theological reflection, worship, field trips. Registration limited to 125 persons by application. Cost: \$750 (includes room and meals). At Stony Point Center in New York. Sponsored by Auburn Theological Seminary and Stony Point Center in cooperation with the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Contact Auburn, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027.

*The Flyer often receives job notices with no deadlines or very short ones; we suggest you contact the prospective employer by phone where possible prior to submitting an application.*

**Associate Director, Alabama-West Florida Conference Council on Ministries.** Seek person well trained and adept in all areas of Christian education; communications skills helpful. Contact Dr. Roy Sublette, PO Box 700, Andalusia, AL 36420.

**Administrative Coordinator, Interfaith Action for Economic Justice.** To oversee general administration of 12 offices and secretarial staff in coalition of 29 national religious denominations and agencies addressing public policies for economic justice. Salary: \$24,000 - \$28,000. Contact Executive Director, Interfaith Action for Economic Justice, 110 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20002-5694. Deadline: Nov. 30.

**Communication Specialist, East Ohio Conference.** To edit, manage and promote the conference newspaper; direct and coordinate media relations; coordinate training for local church, district and conference leaders in public relations; produce promotional and interpretive materials. Requires Christian commitment, knowledge of UMC polity, bachelors degree in communication/journalism or equivalent, experience in editing, public relations, training. Contact Mrs. LaVonne Moore, Ohio East Area Office, 8800 Cleveland Ave., N.W., PO Box 2800, North Canton, OH 44720. Deadline: Nov. 30.

**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 local church position openings, write the Division of Diaconal Ministry, BHEM, UMC, PO Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 327-2700, ext. 215.

**Executive Director, Western Rural Life Center.** Work with churches, denominational and ecumenical agencies and seminaries to develop leadership, programs and support rural and small congregations. Begins June, 1988. Inquire Small Church Center, PO Box 514, Filer, ID 83328.

**Project Assistant, Churches' Committee for Voter Registration/Education.** Provides clerical and administrative services to CCVR/E, a project of Interfaith Action for Economic Justice. Salary \$16,000 - \$17,000. Contact Project Manager, CCVR/E, c/o Interfaith Action for Economic Justice, 110 Maryland Ave., N.E., Washington, DC 20002. Deadline: Nov. 21.

**General Secretary, General Board of Church and Society, UMC.** General Secretary is chief administrative officer, responsible for coordination of total program, supervision of staff, administration of headquarters, implementing social principles and book of resolutions. Contact Bishop Leontine T.C. Kelly, chairperson, Search Committee, California-Nevada Conf., P.O. Box 467, San Francisco, CA 94101.

**Faculty Positions, Homiletics and Old Testament, Methodist Theological School in Ohio.** Vacancies created by retirements. Salaries based on established scale. Preliminary interview at AAR/SBL annual meeting in Boston, Dec. 4-7. Contact Dean C.M. Kempton Hewitt, METHESCO, 3081 Columbus Pike, Delaware, OH 43015.

**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.



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