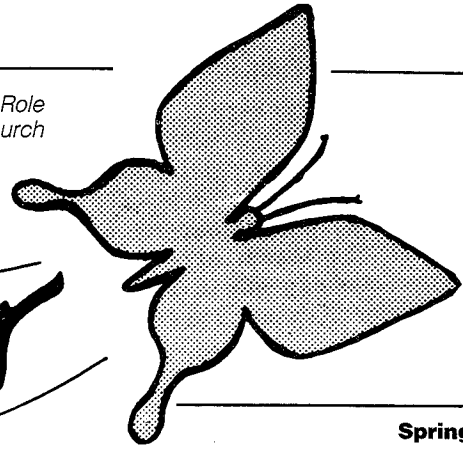


The Flyer



Vol XVII, No. 3

Spring 1997

GCSRW tells plans to train women to write legislation

At its Feb. 20-23 meeting, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women announced plans to train women on how to write legislation for annual conferences and General Conference.

The proposed training would offer hands-on experience and include examination and review of the United Methodist *Book of Discipline* and the writing of new legislation. The next step will be to establish a pilot project to test a model for the training.

Program and administrative groups of the Commission developed this goal and others for planning and implementation during the meeting at Gulfside United Methodist Assembly in Waveland, MS. Additional goals include continued assessment of clergy spouse issues, maintaining contacts with conference Status and Role of Women groups, planning to survey a cross section of constituents to determine the effectiveness of the Commission's work; and self-monitoring for racism and sexism. ■

Barnes urges members to get about the business of caring for people

Addressing the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women at its spring meeting Feb. 20-23 at Gulfside United Methodist Assembly, Waveland, MS, Thelma Barnes urged the Commission to move beyond structural inclusiveness. "We need to get to our business of caring for the people or we're going to miss the Kingdom," she emphasized.

Barnes, a member of the Mississippi Conference and a resident of Greenville, MS, is former associate director of Black Methodists for Church Renewal (BMCR). She began her presentation with the video about BMCR entitled "Black Methodism: Legacy of Faith."

During her presentation, Barnes recounted her experiences at Gulfside Assembly during the Central Jurisdiction, the all Black conference which was formed in 1939 and dissolved in 1968 at the merger of the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church. She also reflected on the gains and losses experienced



Thelma Barnes, right, former associate director of Black Methodists for Church Renewal, discusses the history of the Central Jurisdiction with Cecelia M. Long, member of the Commission's general secretariat.

among African Americans as a result of the formation and dissolution of the Central Jurisdiction. ■

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Spring Meeting discussions

Commission members Janice Riggle Huie, left, and Deb Kiesey participate in one of the small group discussions of racism and sexism. More photos on page 3.

Status Report

European Lutherans push gender issues

A major gathering of European Lutherans recently called for gender issues to be given prominence at the Ninth Assembly of the Lutheran World Federation in Hong Kong, July 8-16, 1996.

Participants at the European gathering heard Margaretha Ringstrom, director of the Church of Sweden's Aid/Lutherhjälpen organization, say, "Gender has to do with male and female, but so far women to a large extent have been left alone to carry the burden of the struggle for liberation, equality and transformation."

The United Methodist Reporter,
Feb. 28, 1997

Jury awards women \$3.7 million in Bailey trial

Jurors awarded more than \$3.7 million Jan. 17 to seven of eight women who accused former United Methodist pastor Barry Bailey of sexual misconduct, ending a trial of nearly five weeks. Bailey, 70, former pastor of Fort Worth's 10,500-member First United Methodist Church, third largest in the denomination, was sued collectively for \$14 million in compensation by the women, most of whom were church employees or members.

The civil court decision came approximately two years after the Central Texas Conference conducted its own nine-month probe into allegations of sexual misconduct against Bailey. When allegations came to light in August 1994, Bailey retired after 18 years as pastor at First Church.

Complying with a request from the Central Texas Conference, he surrendered his clergy credentials in March 1995 rather than face a church trial. Throughout the ordeal, Bailey denied any wrongdoing.

Yet to be settled are suits brought by the women seeking damages from First Church, the Central Texas Conference, the Fort Worth District, and the South Central Jurisdiction of the church. The women contend that church hierarchy was negligent in ig-

Bread for the World estimates that 4 million American children under the age of 12 are hungry and 9.6 million more are at risk of hunger. America's 20% child poverty rate is the highest of any industrialized nation.

noring complaints about Bailey and that church officials breached agreements designed to settle some of the claims.

Methodists Make News, Jan. 24, 1997

Women to lecture at Perkins Minister's Week

For the first time in its more than 50-year history, the annual Minister's Week at Perkins School of Theology will have only women as lecturers.

Lecturers announced for the Feb. 3-5 event include Roberta C. Bondi, professor of church history at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta; Jouette M. Bassler, professor of New Testament at Perkins; Danna Nolan Fewell, associate professor of Old Testament at Perkins; and Rosemary Brown, pastor of Monroe Street and Jordonia United Methodist Churches in Nashville.

Organizer Stanley J. Menking said the selection of women theologians and pastors reflects a dramatically-changed profile of U.S. clergy. Menking noted that 40.5 percent of the students on the Perkins campus here are women while 71 percent of the students at the Houston/Galveston extension are women.

Methodists Make News, Dec. 20, 1996

Taking the measure of UMC clergy

Preliminary figures in a study of clergy in the United Methodist Church in the U.S. have revealed major changes over the past two decades. From 1974 to 1994, the annual number of men ordained to the ministry in the denomination fell from a little under 700 to just under 400. For women, the numbers increased significantly, although not enough to offset the drop in male clergy.

At the same time, the average age of new ministers at ordination has risen sharply—an indication that a growing proportion of people are joining the ministry in mid-life. In the 20-year period from 1974 to 1993, the average age for male clergy in the church rose from 28 to 36. The average age of female pastors rose from 28 to a high of 43, then fell to 41 in 1993.

The figures were released by Rolf Memming, a United Methodist minister in Vermont, as preliminary results of a research project he is conducting. His work is part of a much broader, multiyear study of "United Methodism and American Culture" directed by Duke University Divinity School in

The National Council of Churches has established a World Wide Web site for news and information from all faith groups...

<http://www.wfn.org>

Durham, NC, and funded by the Lily Endowment.

Memming indicated that he also wanted to find out why many of those who were ordained left the ministry soon afterwards. His figures show that of those ordained up to 1984, 30-40 percent from any given year had dropped out of the ministry within ten years. Memming suggested that the way parishes treated newly ordained pastors was a significant factor. His initial investigations led him to describe certain parishes—those that showed a relatively high turnover rate for clergy—as "frequent offenders."

The trend toward more women and more second-career people of both genders in seminaries has been generally recognized in many American churches in recent years. But Memming's study is important because it confirms these trends with specific figures in the denomination widely considered as most representative of American mainline Protestantism.

Christian Century,
Aug. 28-Sept. 4, 1996

The Flyer

Spring 1997
Vol. XVII, No. 3

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

Editor: Bonny Stainaker Roth

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

GCSRW officers:

Joyce Waldon Bright, President/Taka Ishii, Vice-President/Charlotte Fitzsimons, Secretary

General Secretariat:

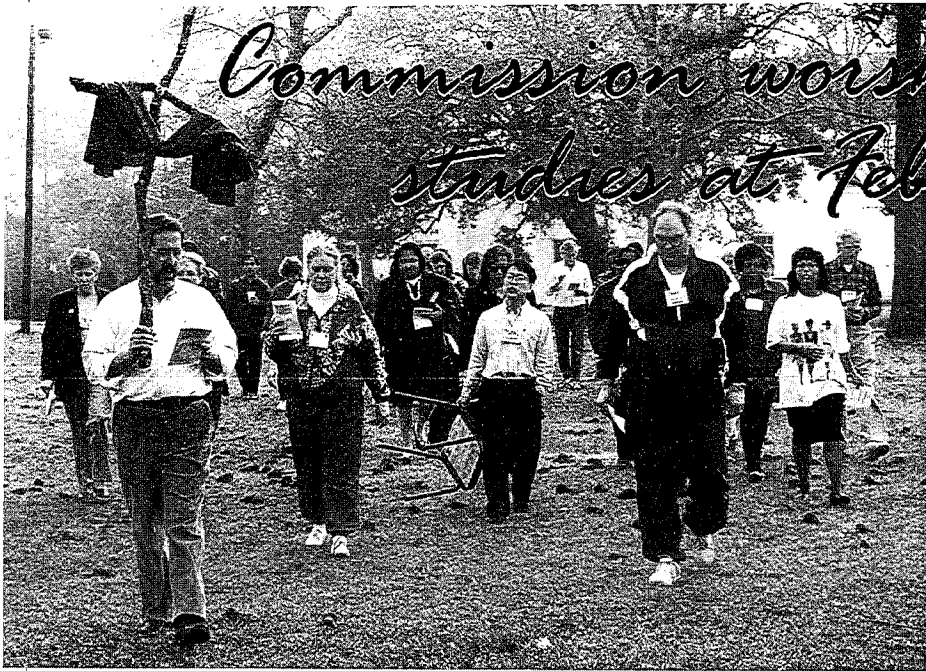
Stephanie Anna Hixon/Cecelia M. Long

GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 869-7330; (800) 523-8390

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Printed on recycled paper. 

Commission worships, plans, studies at February meeting



On the grounds of beautiful, historic Gulfside United Methodist Assembly, Waveland, MS, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women worshiped, planned and studied together at their Feb. 20-23 meeting. The discussions of racism and sexism from reading and personal experience were enhanced by the setting at Gulfside, founded in 1923 when the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was strictly segregated along racial lines.

Doug Grove-DeJarnett, at left, carrying wooden cross, leads Commission on a walking worship service on the holy grounds of Gulfside United Methodist Assembly.



Commission members Winonah McGee, left, and Molly Turner register as guests before worship at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Gulfport.



Members of the Monitoring and Research Work Unit make their creative presentation of quadrennial goals: from left, Taka Ishii, on drums, Mattie Mae Rice, Alice Yun Chai, and Gail Murphy-Geiss.



St. Mark youth welcome Commission members to their bake sale following worship: from left, Phyllis Ferguson, Chris Keels, and Rebecca Youngblood.



Following worship, from left, Marian Martin, director of Gulfside Assembly, and Maggie Allen, member of St. Mark, visit with Lois Dauway, Commission member.

Hispanic Theological Initiative announces objectives

According to *Apuntes* (Winter 1996), The Hispanic Theological Initiative (HTI) has as its immediate objective to increase the presence of Latino/a faculty in seminaries, schools of theology, and universities. A second goal is to prepare highly trained religious leaders and educators who can articulate, model and teach values and ideas that will inform and make an impact in Latino faith communities in the United States and Puerto Rico. To that end, the HTI includes the following program components:

- Scholarship grants at the Masters level to outstanding students preparing for doctoral studies in the field of religion.
- Scholarship grants at the Doctoral level (Ph.D. or its equivalent) to students of exceptional promise.
- Dissertation year scholarships for students who are at the writing and research phase of doctoral studies.
- Annual Summer Workshop for doctoral

awardees to assist them in developing research, writing, and teaching skills.

- Mentoring Program which pairs doctoral grant recipients with a Latino/a scholar.
- Networking activities which include a yearly national meeting; regional meetings; as well as participation by masters and doctoral awardees in the Hispanic Summer Program.

For more information, write or call the HTI office at 1703 Clifton Road, Suite F-2, Atlanta, GA 30329. (404) 727-1337; (888) 441-4785. Fax (404) 727-1361. E-mail: HTI@emory.edu.

STITCH invites support for Guatemalan women

A group of Guatemalan women are taking on the multinational corporation Phillips-Van Heusen, and women in the U.S. are mobilizing in their support. The Guatemalan women work for PVH in their two Guatemalan clothing assembly or "maquila" plants,

where they are paid poverty level wages and endure violations of basic labor rights. These women are seeking to become the first Guatemalan maquila workers who have organized their own union and won a union contract.

In the U.S., a national network of women, STITCH, is campaigning in support of the Guatemalan women's organizing efforts. Among many forms of action, STITCH is asking women's groups across the country to write letters of support to the STECAMOSA union and to send buttons, t-shirts, and other emblems, as well as financial contributions. For more information about the corporate campaign, contact Hanna Frisch at US/GLEP, (773) 262-6502.

Applicants invited for Hoover award

The Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries invites applications for the 1998 Theresa Hoover Community Service and Global Citizen Award. Applications must be postmarked by Aug. 1, 1997.

The award honors Theresa Hoover for her service to the Women's Division, The United Methodist Church, and the ecumenical world.

The award is given annually to a woman age 21-35 without regard to race or nationality, who has demonstrated concern for her neighbors and community, shown that concern in service to her community, and exhibits an awareness of the total nature of our responsibilities in today's world.

To request an application, contact Women's Division General Administration, Hoover Award, Room 1504, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115. (212) 870-3600. ■

New Commission members elected and task force participants named

Meeting at Gulfside United Methodist Assembly Feb. 20-23, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) elected three new members and named participants for two task forces.

The new members are Sherman Harris, layman from Baltimore-Washington Conference; Seini Liti, laywoman from California Pacific Conference; and Mark Miller, layman from Northern New Jersey Conference.

GCSRW members selected for the Joint

Task Force on Racism/Sexism, co-sponsored with the General Commission on Religion and Race, are Alice Yun Chai, Phyllis Ferguson, Doug Grove-DeJarnett, and Dean Yamamoto.

As plans move forward for a Women's Congress in April 1999, the Commission named members to serve on that task force: Joyce Waldon Bright, Francis E.W. Guidry, Takayuki Ishii, Deborah Kiesey, Darlene Saunders-Ousley, and Elizabeth Wright. ■

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

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

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

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TIMELINE

OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

IN THE UNITED METHODIST TRADITION

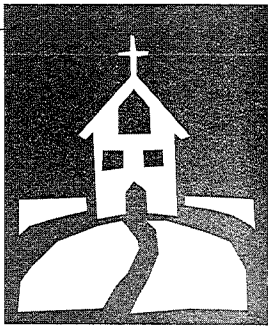
1703 – 1996



- 1703 John Wesley is born (June 17).
- 1725 John Wesley is ordained as a deacon in the Church of England.
- 1758 John Wesley baptizes a black man for the first time.
- 1766 Barbara Heck is instrumental in organizing a Methodist congregation in New York City, which includes Bettye, a black woman. It is the beginning of what is now the John Street United Methodist Church.
- 1784 Wesley ordains Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as preachers for America and commissions Thomas Coke to ordain others.
- Methodist Episcopal Church (MEC) is organized at the "Christmas Conference," Baltimore, Maryland. Francis Asbury is ordained by Coke, and probably Whatcoat and Vasey. Asbury and Coke are named superintendents of the new church.
- Richard Allen and Absalom Jones are licensed to preach by St. George's Church, Philadelphia. They are the first African Americans granted MEC preaching licenses.
- 1787 The Free American Society is formed in Philadelphia, the beginnings of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.
- 1796 A group of African Americans withdraws from the John Street Church, forming the nucleus of what will become the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 1820.
- African Zoar Church (now Zoar United Methodist Church) is dedicated in Philadelphia, the oldest black congregation in the United Methodist tradition with a continuous existence.
- 1800 The MEC General Conference officially grants ordination to African Americans. Bishop Asbury ordains Richard Allen a deacon.
- 1816 The African Methodist Episcopal Church is formed and Richard Allen is chosen bishop.
- John Stewart, an African American, begins a mission among the Wyandotts of Ohio. MEC response to his work results in the formation of a denominational missionary society in 1819.
- 1820 The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church is organized in New York.
- 1822 Daniel Coker organizes a Methodist society for freed slaves en route to Liberia.
- 1824 Feeling the abolition of slavery impossible, the MEC turns its attention to regulating the treatment of slaves by its members.
- 1843 Orange Scott and others, favoring the abolition of slavery, withdraw from the MEC to form the Wesleyan Methodist Connection.
- 1844 The Methodist Episcopal Church is divided, north and south, by the Plan of Separation. The issue of slavery also divides the Presbyterian and Baptist denominations.
- 1846 Baltimore Colored Mission Conference (MP) is organized.
- 1852 A Convention of Colored Local Preachers and Laymen convenes at Zoar Church in Philadelphia, the first gathering of its kind in the United Methodist tradition. The group meets annually until 1863, and in 1864 organizes the Delaware Annual Conference (MEC).

Excerpts from Timeline of United Methodist History 1703—1996, published by the General Commission on Archives and History, P.O. Box 127, Madison, NJ 07940

continued on page 6



TIMELINE

continued from page 5

- 1858 Francis Burns, African American missionary to Liberia, is elected bishop by the Liberia Conference, making him the first black bishop and the first missionary bishop of the MEC.
- 1861 The Civil War begins.
- 1864 The Delaware Annual Conference is organized, the first of what are eventually 25 "Negro Annual Conferences" in the MEC.
Frank B. Smith becomes the first African American to be admitted to an MEC annual conference (New England).
- 1866 The MEC forms the Freedmen's Aid Society to establish schools for former slaves in the South. Rust College is founded in Mississippi the same year.
The MEC South General Conference approves the formation of a separate denomination for black Methodists in the South.
- 1870 The colored Methodist Episcopal Church is organized out of the MEC South. (The name is changed in 1956 to Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.)
- 1875 The Cape May Commission declares that the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, are coequal branches of the Methodist Episcopal Church founded in 1784.
- 1876 The MEC General Conference votes to allow annual conferences to divide along racial lines.
- 1877 The Methodist Protestant Church, divided in 1858 over the issue of slavery, formally reunites.
- 1904 Mary McLeod Bethune founds the Dayton Normal and Industrial School for Negro Girls in Daytona Beach, Florida. After merger in 1923 with Cookman Institute, the school becomes Bethune-Cookman College.
- 1920 Robert E. Jones and Matthew W. Clair become the first African American bishops (MEC) elected to serve in the United States.
- 1939 The Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church reunite to form The Methodist Church.
Mary McLeod Bethune and others oppose the formation of the Central Jurisdiction in the Methodist Plan of Union because it reinforces segregation.
- 1940 First meeting of the Central Jurisdiction (MC); W.A.C. Hughes and Lorenzo King are elected its first two bishops.
- 1956 The MC General Conference adopts Amendment IX, which provides a framework for the elimination of the Central Jurisdiction.
- 1960 The Central Jurisdiction forms a Committee of Five to study ways of eliminating the jurisdiction.
- 1968 The Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren merge to form The United Methodist Church.
Roy C. Nichols becomes the first African American to be elected bishop by a regional jurisdictional conference in the new UMC.
Black Methodists for Church Renewal is organized. The General Commission on Religion and Race is formed.
- 1972 General Conference ratifies the formation of United Methodist Women. The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women is also established and funded.
- 1976 Mai Gray becomes the first African American president of the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries.
- 1984 Leontine T.C. Kelly becomes the first African American woman to be elected bishop.

Resources

The following resources offer a variety of works on racism and related issues. **The Flyer** thanks the General Commission on Religion and Race for their assistance with a number of the works listed below.

African American Pastoral Care, Edward P. Wimberly (Abingdon, 1991). Places caregiving in context with the narrative aspects of preaching and worship in the life of a congregation. \$11.95.

Black Lies, White Lies. Tony Brown (William Morrow, 1995). The outspoken activist and host of the PBS public affairs program *Tony Brown's Journal* puts forth his proposal to resolve America's racial dilemma. \$14.00.

Black People in the Methodist Church, William B. McClain (Schenkman Publishing Company, 1984).

Bone Black: Memories of Girlhood, bell hooks (Henry Holt, 1996). This leading feminist intellectual presents a powerful and intimate account of growing up in the South and learning to speak her mind. Hardcover \$20.00.

Never Say Nigger Again! An Antiracism Guide for White Liberals, M. Garlinda Burton (James C. Winston, 1995). This book identifies and confronts the racism practiced by people who claim to know better. \$9.95.

The Color of Water, James McBride (Dove, 1996). This memoir uncovers the secret life of the author's mother, a Polish rabbi's daughter who kept her true heritage hidden and lived as a black woman. \$12.00.

An Easy Burden, Andrew Young (Harper Collins, 1996). Memoir of this statesman of the civil rights movement presents an important look at our country's past. Hardcover \$27.50.

From One Brother to Another: Voices of African American Men, ed. William J. Key and Robert Johnson-Smith II (Judson Press, 1996). A collection of reflections and meditations. \$10.00.

The Future of the Race, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Cornel West (Random House, 1995). Two of prominent intellectuals reassess the widening racial gulf and propose solutions for it. \$12.00.

Hard Questions, Heart Answers: Sermons and Speeches, The Reverend Bernice A. King (Broadway Books, 1996). Martin Luther King Jr.'s youngest daughter continues his vision with words of hope, compassion, and wisdom for these times of racial division and unrest. \$20.00.

Heritage and Hope: The African American Presence in United Methodism, Grant Shockley (Abingdon Press, 1991). \$14.95.

I Want to be Ready: Meditations Based on Quotes from Famous Black Persons, Sheron C. Patterson (Abingdon, 1994). Provides more than fifty short meditations. \$5.95.

Language of Hospitality: Intercultural Relations in the Household of God, Anne Streaty Wimberly and Edward Powell Wimberly (General Commission on Religion and Race, United Methodist Church, 1991). A study guide that helps adults and older youth learn how to practice cultural inclusivity through language and actions. Available through Cokesbury. \$3.50.

Methodism's Racial Dilemma: The Story of the Central Jurisdiction, James Thomas (Abingdon Press, 1992). \$17.95.

Not Without a Struggle: Leadership Development for African American Women in Ministry, Vashti McKenzie (Pilgrim Press, 1996). A leading clergywoman provides a historical, theological, and biblical overview of female church leadership. \$15.95.

Our Time Under God Is Now: Reflections on Black Methodists for Church Renewal, ed. Woodie W. White (Abingdon Press, 1993). \$13.95.

Shades of Freedom, A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr. (Oxford University Press, 1996). A leading authority on race in the U.S., this distinguished scholar presents an account of the interaction of law and racial oppression in America. \$30.00.

Showing My Color, Clarence Page (Harper Collins, 1997). With unprecedented candor, this skilled essayist focuses on topics including conservatives, affirmative action, integration, and the campus culture wars. \$13.00.

Sister to Sister: Devotions for and from African American Women, edited by Suzan D. Johnson Cook (Judson, 1995). A powerful

source of strength, renewal, healing, and celebration. \$10.00.

Song of Solomon, Toni Morrison (Alfred A. Knopf, 1977). This classic novel cemented Morrison's place in the world of literature with its on-target depiction of the black experience. \$18.95.

Soul Theology: The Heart of American Black Culture, Nicholas Cooper-Lewter and Henry H. Mitchell (Abingdon, 1991). A healing and balancing force in the black community, some of these beliefs articulate understandings of God's attributes while others offer insights into African American religion and culture. \$14.95.

Troubling Biblical Waters: Race, Class & Family, Cain Hope Felder (Orbis Books, 1989). A landmark reference work on the issues of race, class, and family in the Bible. \$16.50.

Turning Corners: Reflections of African Americans in the UMC from 1961-1993, George Daniels. This book includes the history of the Central Jurisdiction and stories of Black leaders. Only 7,000 copies were printed. Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. Write General Council on Ministries, 601 W. Riverview Ave., Dayton, OH 45406-5543.

Two Nations: Black and White, Separate, Hostile and Unequal, Andrew Hacker (Ballantine, 1995). \$12.00.

The View From Here, Brian Keith Jackson (Pocket Books, 1997). This debut novel set in the rural South illustrates the challenges of keeping family together in an environment of prejudice and poverty. \$22.00.

White Women, Race Matters: The Social Construction of Whiteness, Ruth Frankenberg (University of Minnesota Press, 1993). \$17.95.

With Heart and Hand: The Black Church Working to Save Black Children, Susan D. Newman (Judson, *date). Profiles of ten successful ministries established specifically to help children. Includes specifics such as planning, resources, training, problems encountered, and words of advice. \$9.00.

Christian Social Action, magazine published by the General Board of Church and Society, March 1996. Special issue on racism for study and discussion, with in-depth analysis for congregations to move into specific anti-racism actions. Available for \$1.50 a copy from GBCS Service Department, (800) 967-0880.

Change of Address

Please send your change of address to: *The Flyer*, General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, 1200 Davis, Evanston, IL 60201.

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If possible, please include the mailing label from this issue of *The Flyer*.

More information and resources are available from the General Commission on Religion and Race, No. 48, 110 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20002-5680. Phone: (202) 547-2271. Fax: (202) 547-0358.

For more information on racial justice, contact the General Board of Church and Society, program director, Francis J. Jett, (202) 488-5658. ■

Calendar

May 4-7

Clergy Misconduct: Sexual Abuse in the Ministerial Relationship—Leadership Development for Judicatories: Crisis Response & Management, Seattle. Training sponsored by the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence (CPSDV). Contact CPSDV, phone: (206) 634-1903; fax: (206) 634-0115; E-mail: cpsdv@cpsdv.seanet.com.

May 6, 7:30-9 p.m. E.S.T.

Family, Community and Media Values, UM Teleconference. Introduces the National Council of Churches' Media Awareness Year. Focuses on consumerism, substance abuse and citizenship. Addresses dynamics of living in today's media culture. Identifies media messages and proposes guidelines for becoming more intelligent media consumers. Contact UM Teleconference Connection, (212) 870-3802 or e-mail to Travis@interport.net.

May 15-17

Is Nothing Sacred? Retreat for Women Survivors of Clergy Sexual Abuse, Villisca, IA. Retreat is sponsored by Iowa Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. To register, contact Jackie Cordon, RR 1, Box 25, Villisca, IA 50864. (712) 826-8121.

May 21-23, 1997

Movements of The Spirit: Readings & Reflections on the Spiritual (Auto)biography, New York. Leaders are Katherine Kurs and Albert Raboteau. Contact Auburn Theological Seminary, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027. (800) 818-2911.

May 29-31

Power Equity Group in Theory and Practice, Chicago. A workshop to provide experience and a theory enabling participants to function in groups in which equity and diversity are

valued. Contact Equity Associates, NDA, Inc., 21 Shore Drive, Laconia, NH 03246. (603) 524-1441. Fax: (608) 528-7912. equityasso@aol.com

June 13-15

Is Nothing Sacred? Retreat for Women Survivors of Clergy Sexual Abuse, Pascoag, Rhode Island 02859. To register, contact Associates in Education and Prevention in Pastoral Practice (AEPPI), Box 63, No. Kingstown, RI 02852. Fax: (401) 295-0698.

June 20-22

Power Equity Group in Theory and Practice, Washington, DC. Contact Equity Associates, NDA, Inc. (see May 29-31).

July 24-27

Come to the Table, Atlanta. The fifth national Reconciling Congregation Program convocation. Contact RCP, 3801 N. Keeler Ave., Chicago, IL 60641. (773) 736-5526. Fax: (773) 736-5475.

Sept. 12-14

Power Equity Group in Theory and Practice, Sacramento, CA. Contact Equity Associates, NDA, Inc. (see May 29-31). ■

Copy deadlines

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

May 15, 1997	Summer 1997
June 30, 1997	Fall 1997

Send to: Bonny Stalnaker Roth, GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. (800) 523-8390. FAX: (847) 869-1466.

Ovations

To **Constance Nelson Barnes** of Columbia, SC, who has been named associate general secretary of the General Commission on Religion and Race.

To **Charlene Black**, associate vice president for academic affairs at Georgia Southern University and a member of First UMC in Statesboro, GA, who has been nominated as the first woman lay leader of the South Georgia Conference.

To **Donna Frisby** of Willingboro, NJ, who received the 1997 Theresa Hoover Community Service and Global Citizen Award, given by the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries.

To **Janice Grana**, world editor and publisher of *The Upper Room*, who has announced her plans to step down from her responsibilities in order to be with her family as they relocate to North Carolina where her spouse has assumed a pastoral appointment with two local churches in that area. She will assume a new position with the General Board of Discipleship as co-team leader of the Work Area on Upper Room Books.

To **Ann Saunkeah**, a Cherokee who is an elementary school teacher from Tulsa, OK, who was elected the first full-time executive director of the United Methodist Church's Native American Comprehensive Plan.

To **Ann Brookshire Sherer**, Missouri bishop, president of the Missouri Christian Leadership Forum, and former president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, who joined other faith leaders at the Missouri state capitol Jan. 29 to lobby for just and compassionate welfare reform.

To **Jeanie Watson**, a college dean at Tulane University in New Orleans, who has been named president of Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. ■



The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women
in the United Methodist Church
1200 Davis Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201