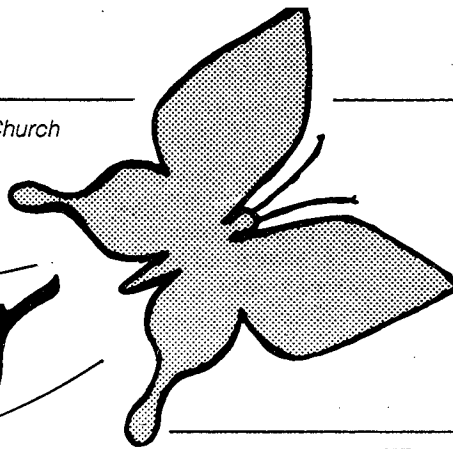


The Flyer



Vol XIII, No. 3

Winter 1992-93

New Coordinating Committee GCSRW celebrates new Community of Leaders

At its organizing meeting Sept. 24-27, 1992, at the Radisson Hotel, Lincolnwood, IL, the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) selected by consensus its Community of Leaders, traditionally referred to as the Coordinating Committee, as recommended by the Nominating Committee.

Working as a community with shared leadership are Ann Sherer, president; Joyce Waldon Bright, vice president; John Campbell, secretary; Elizabeth Vernon, Issue Development, Education, Advocacy (IDEA); Sally Ernst, Monitoring and Review; Margie Titus, Annual Conference and Constituency Services; Don Williams, Legislation; Aquilino Javier, Evaluation and Review; Anita Wood, Personnel; Efrain Maldonado, Finance; and Fran Eldredge, Nominating.

The election of Ann Sherer as president marks an historic moment for the Commission to be led by one of the six active female U.S. episcopal leaders. Fran Eldredge, reporting for the Nominating Committee, emphasized that Ann's personal gifts will enable her to provide the shared leadership and vision to guide the Commission in the coming quadrennium.

Sherer and Bright, along with the Coordinating Committee, work on a model of shared leadership. Sherer explains, "One of



The Community of Leaders elected by the Commission includes left to right, front row: Efrain Maldonado, Finance; Joyce Waldon Bright, Vice President; and Don Williams, Legislation. Back row: Aquilino Javier, Evaluation and Review; Margie Titus, Annual Conference and Constituency Services; Anita Wood, Personnel; Fran Eldredge, Nominating; and John Campbell, Secretary. Not pictured are Ann Sherer, President; Elizabeth Vernon, Issue Development, Education, Advocacy (IDEA); and Sally Ernst, Monitoring and Review.

the flowers we glimpse blooming in the desert is that image of shared leadership and operating by consensus."

One of the ways in which the model of shared leadership operates in the Commission, says Sherer, is that our chair of Personnel rather than our president is serving on the General Council on Ministries

As Bright points out, "We benefit from the synergy that occurs when the sum of the parts is greater than the whole. By working as a team rather than individual leaders, we believe we have the potential to achieve our common goals more quickly."

Bright continues, "We come from different places; everyone is valued. With our

individual uniqueness, we bring value to the Commission and the entire church wins."

Returning Commission member Anita Wood served as facilitator for community building activities that included small groups designing the front page of one 1996 issue of the Commission newsletter *The Flyer*. Among the headlines were the following visions:

- Woman leads Council of Bishops
- Church leads nation to national healthcare
- Sexual harassment eliminated
- Bishops operate by consensus
- Equal pay granted to UMC clergy women
- Southeast Jurisdiction elects its first woman bishop

In this issue...

Sexual Harassment and the Church: The first of periodic updates from the GCSRW **p3**

In Celebration of Annual Conferences: Highlights of some exciting programs **p5**

Celebrate February and March: February is Black History Month, March is Women's History Month **p8**

continued on page 2

GCSRW celebrates new Community of Leaders

continued from page 1

- First US Woman President elected—she's a UMC!
- Local churches use Study Guides on *Varied Images of God*
- Churches report shortage of clergy women
- Churches make human sexuality a priority
- Bishops promote non-hierarchical model for ministry

Community-building activities provide a foundation for decision-making by consensus. The process of reaching consensus enables the Commission to build united judgments rather than reflecting the will of a majority.

Through this process the Commission models for the church a means for building inclusive committees. As such, committees represent not simply a balance of racial/ethnic persons, but more importantly represent the diversity of persons—gender, geographic location, racial/ethnic, age—serving on the Commission and the church as a whole.



Commission members, from left, Myrtle Hatcher, Darlene Biggs, and Efrain Maldonado enjoy their community-building activities.



General Secretariat members Stephanie Anna Hixon and Cecelia Long with Ann Sherer, who spoke on the organization of the South Central Jurisdiction Women's Leadership Team.

The Commission heard a presentation from Ann Jones of Harvey, IL, a campaign worker for Carol Moseley-Braun, newly elected U.S. Senator from Illinois. Jones, a psychologist and United Methodist, said women are needed in national leadership because they bring different approaches to problem-solving, and "we need a combination of creative forces."

Another guest speaker, Lisa Arnold of Evanston, IL, a YWCA staff member, discussed her work managing a shelter for battered women. She told the group that domestic violence is now the leading cause of injury to women. "An estimated one-fourth to one-half of all emergency room visits are domestic-violence related," Arnold said.

Another significant means of community building was attending Evanston's Northlight Theater production of "Jar the Floor." According to playwright Cheryl L. West, for *Jar the Floor*, "My first image before a word ever hit the page was that I was going to write a play about connection and about women trying to connect and failing to connect. And the consummate connection, the power that would emanate would spiritually and literally Jar the Floor." ■

The Flyer

Winter 1992-93
Vol. XIII, 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 72 Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women (ACCSRWs). Primary distribution of The Flyer is through the ACCSRWs; individual subscriptions, available through the GCSRW, are \$7.50.

Editor: Bonny Stalnaker Roth

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

GCSRW officers:

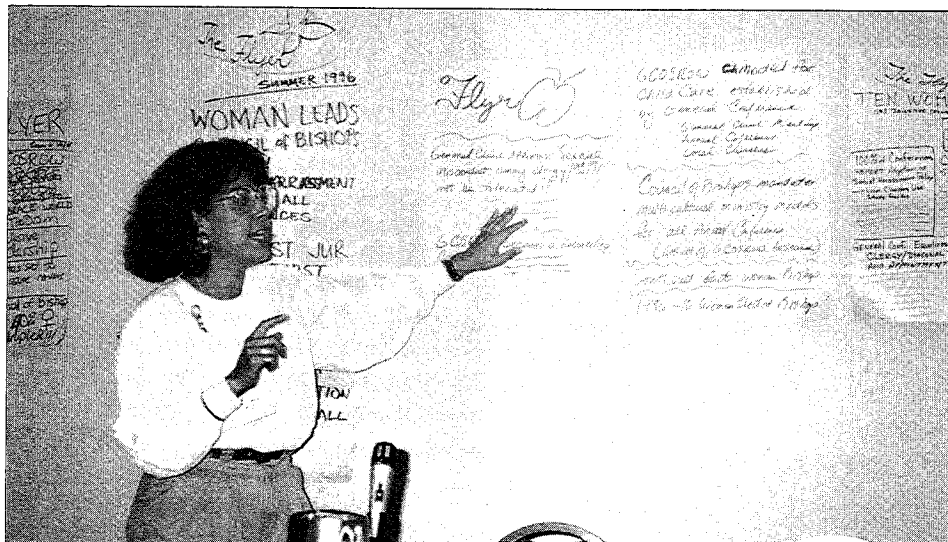
Ann Sherer, President/Joyce Waldon Bright, Vice-President/John Campbell, Secretary

General Secretariat:

Stephanie Anna Hixon/Cecelia Long

GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201
(708) 869-7330

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Commission member Liz Lopez Spence shares her group's headline vision for a 1996 issue of *The Flyer*.

Printed on recycled paper. ♻️

UPDATE:

Sexual Harassment and the Church

Following 1992 General Conference approval of the Commission-sponsored resolution "Sexual Harassment and the United Methodist Church," the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) is working cooperatively with church bodies to address the issues of sexual harassment.

This column is the first of periodic updates on what the United Methodist Church is doing in this regard.

The Council of Bishops devoted two days of its week-long November meeting to enhancing their understanding of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct.

The training included a workshop on clergy sexual ethics led by Dr. Donald Houts, consultant to the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry. The sessions also included a workshop on policies, procedures, and legal issues related to sexual harassment led by Craig Hoskins, legal counsel for the General Council on Finance and Adminis-

tration, and Stephanie Anna Hixon and Cecelia Long, members of the general secretariat of GCSRW.

Fall and winter **Jurisdictional Training Events** for annual conference leaders also include sexual harassment awareness sessions led by Hixon and Long.

Annual conferences, as detailed in *The 1992 Book of Resolutions*, "will have a sexual harassment policy in place, including grievance procedures for victims and penalties for offenders." A copy of these policies is to be forwarded to the Commission by Jan. 1, 1995, for reporting to the 1996 General Conference. The Commission has available resources and counsel on the components of effective policies. ■

Sexual harassment— why do we care?

"We're not responding only because of legal liability, but because we are called to live in a community of Christian love where no one need fear."

—Stephanie Anna Hixon

What is sexual harassment?

Sexual harassment is defined by the United Methodist Book of Resolutions as a sin, specifically "any unwanted sexual advance or demand, either verbal or physical, which is perceived by the recipient as demeaning, intimidating or coercive."

Sexual harassment exploits a power relationship, including the creation of a hostile or abusive working environment wherein a person's continued employment is subject to his or her submission to sexual coercion.

Sexual exploitation is unethical (and in some states unlawful) behavior by a therapist or counselor through sexual contact with a client.

Women's groups organize for 1995 World/U.N. Women's Conference

Plans are underway for the fourth United Nations World Women's Conference to convene Sept. 4-15, 1995 in Beijing, China. As with previous conferences in Mexico City in 1975, Copenhagen in 1980, and Nairobi in 1985, there will actually be two conferences: the official U.N. conference to which governments will send delegations and a non-governmental organization (NGO) forum open to the public.

As reported in the April 1992 issue of the International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP) newsletter, *Women's Watch*, the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, which met in March, is urging governments to hold national preparatory meetings in late 1993 or early 1994, prior to the U.N. regional conferences in 1994.

Many women's organizations such as IWRAP and the U.S. Council for INSTRAW (the U.N. International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) are organizing efforts to identify issues for both the official U.N. conference and the NGO Forum. The U.S. Council for INSTRAW has invited the U.S. associations

for U.N. International Fund for Women (UNIFEM), U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO), and the U.N. Association (UNA) to cosponsor regional conferences and encourage their local members to join regional planning committees along with faculty from local universities and representatives of international and women's nongovernmental organizations.

For further information, contact Irene Tinker, President, U.S. Council for INSTRAW, 7515 Claremont Ave., Berkeley, CA 94705, (510) 849-2223; or Arvonne Fraser, IWRAP Director, Women, Public Policy and Development Project, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, 301 19th Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN 55455, (612) 625-2505 or fax (612) 625-6351.

—from *Women's Research Network News*, Spring/Summer 1992.

Subscribe to The Flyer

See coupon on page 7

IOWA AC/CSRW sets retreat for survivors of clergy sexual abuse

Iowa Annual Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women (AC/CSRW) invites women survivors of clergy sexual abuse to a retreat to be held May 13 to 15 at Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp near Spirit Lake, IA. Registration is confidential.

The retreat, "Is Nothing Sacred," will be led by Elizabeth Stellas, an affiliate of the Center for Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence in Seattle, WA. Cost is \$75.

For more information contact the camp's program administrators, Connie and Phil Dicks, RR 2, Box 5244, Spirit Lake, IA 51360. (712) 336-2936.

General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

SPRING MEETING
LAKE JUNALUSKA, NC
FEB. 25-28

Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship accepting applications

The \$2,500 Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship for Ethnic Minority Students is accepting applications for the 1992-1993 academic year. Presented by UM Communications, the award is offered in recognition of Perryman, a journalist for the UMC for nearly 30 years.

The scholarship is intended to aid ethnic minority undergraduate students (junior or senior) who intend to pursue a career in religious communication and attend an accredited institution of higher education.

The purpose of the scholarship is to enable the recipient to continue his/her studies in communication and to promote a level of excellence in communication on the undergraduate level by an ethnic minority student. The term communication is meant to cover various media as audiovisual, electronic and print journalism.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to Scholarship Committee, UM Communications, Suite 1901, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115. Deadline for mailing applications and supporting documents is March 1, 1993.

Stoody-West Fellowship in Journalism accepting applications

The annual \$6,000 Stoody-West Fellowship in Journalism is accepting applications for the 1992-1993 academic year. The award, presented by UM Communications, is offered in recognition of the professional competence and inspired service of Dr. Ralph Stoody and Dr. Arthur West, leaders in public relations and Methodist information in the UMC from 1940-1975.

The grant will assist a Christian engaged in religious journalism, or one planning to enter this field, in taking graduate study at an accredited school or department of journalism of his or her choice.

The purpose of the fellowship is to enhance the recipient's professional competence and thereby help to perpetuate the standards exemplified by Ralph Stoody and Arthur West. Religious journalism is broadly interpreted to include audiovisual, electronic and print journalism.

Application forms may be obtained by writing to Fellowship Committee, UM Communications, Suite 1901, 475 Riverside

Drive, New York, NY 10115. Deadline for mailing applications and supporting documents is March 1, 1993.

Georgia Harkness Scholar in Residence invites applications

The Georgia Harkness Scholar in Residence option at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (G-ETS), Evanston, IL, invites interested church women, both lay and clergy, to apply for a sabbatical year on campus.

The program is designed for women who wish to spend a sabbatical year renewing and developing their knowledge of the growing field of feminist studies in theology, to enhance their work in the church, in education, or in other areas of work, as well as their own personal development.

The option allows one or two women to spend a year in residency engaged in feminist and other theological studies. G-ETS offers

subsidized housing at the student rate and free auditing privileges in any class, as well as library privileges. The WomenIMAGES Center offers space for study and networking with women students.

G-ETS is part of the 12-seminary Association of Chicago Theological Schools, where additional opportunities for women's religious studies are available. It is located on the campus of Northwestern University with access to major library resources and an active women's studies program.

Interested women should begin the application process by contacting Dr. Rosemary Ruether or Dr. Rosemary Keller by April 1. Written materials including a letter of interest and resume/vitae should follow by May 1. Write to Dr. Ruether or Dr. Keller, Co-Chairs, Institute for the Study of Women in Church History, G-ETS, 2121 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 866-3900. ■

Ovations

To **Loretta D. Isaiah**, who has been elected the first woman chairperson of the West Virginia Board of Ordained Ministry.

To **Carol F. Krau**, who has been named director in Christian education on the staff of the General Board of Discipleship.

To **Sarah F. Martin II** of St. Louis, and to **Joanne M. Reich** of Little Rock, who have been named recipients of the 1993 Theresa Hoover Community Service and Global Citizen Award, sponsored by the General Board of Global Ministries Women's Division.

To **JoAnn Miller**, who has been named assistant editor of *Weavings*, a bimonthly publication of The Upper Room Division of the General Board of Discipleship. She previously was interim editor of *alive now!*, also published by The Upper Room.

To **Susan Resneck Parr**, who was inaugurated Sept. 11 as the 12th president of United Methodist-related University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA.

To **Julia E. F. Poulsen**, New Creation United Methodist Church, Cedar Rapids, IA, who has been appointed the first woman to start a new UMC in Cedar Rapids through tele-inviting.

To **Eleanor Richardson**, Atlanta; **Edna Duffy**, Shaker Heights, OH; and **Mary Lou Van Buren**, Trumansburg, NY, who received Centennial Laity Awards from the Scarritt-

Bennett Center in Nashville, TN. Richardson was recognized for work in the empowerment of women, and Duffy and Van Buren, for work in spiritual formation.

To **Beverly J. Shamana**, who was elected vice chairwoman of the United Methodist Board of Publication for 1993-1996.

To **Jorunn Wendel**, who has been appointed the first woman district superintendent in the United Methodist Church in Norway, the first denomination in Northern Europe to ordain women clergy.

Clarifications

In *The Flyer*, Fall 1992 issue, we mistakenly renamed a woman in *Ovations*. The entry should have read:

To **Jane Holmes Dixon**, who was elected the second female bishop in the history of the Episcopal Church. She will be an assistant bishop in Washington, D.C.

Also in the Fall 1992 issue, we want to specify that on page 2 the table listing categories of 50 active UM bishops describes only the 50 active UM bishops in the **United States**. ■

IN CELEBRATION OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES... A SAMPLING OF THEIR WORK—PART II

The Flyer is pleased to continue our focus from our Summer issue celebrating the work of Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women (AC/CSRWs) with this second supplement offering highlights of some exciting programs reported to the General Commission.

More highlights will appear in future issues, so other annual conferences are encouraged to share ideas by sending descriptions to The Flyer, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201.

Actions addressing violence against women

Nebraska: Each pastor in the conference received a mailing on resources on domestic violence services in Nebraska from this AC/CSRW. In a cover letter, clergy were informed that in 1991 in the state 4,797 women and children sought assistance from the various domestic violence services provided. Recognizing that pastors are often asked to counsel families in crisis, the AC/CSRW hoped to assist in this way.

The mailing included a brochure "Nebraska's Network of Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Programs," and two directories from Nebraska Department of Public Institutions, one on mental health services and one on alcohol and drug abuse services.

For more information, contact Lori Zeilinger, P.O. Box 297, Grant, NE 69140. Office: (308) 352-4351; home: (308) 284-4350.

Central Illinois: On the local level, the Mason City (IL) United Methodist Men were invited into solidarity with women to be a part of the solution to domestic violence when they asked a representative of Sojourn Women's Center in Springfield, a shelter for the victims of domestic violence, to present a program at their monthly meeting.

All pastors in the conference have received a listing of area shelters. For more information, contact Alice Taylor, co-chair, 514 East Embert Place, Peoria, IL 61603. (309) 685-2176.

Workshops, retreats for education and support

Pacific Northwest: This commission continues to co-sponsor the Ethnic Women's Convocation every two years. The fourth one is planned for 1993.

Over the years, the event has evolved from an ethnic-women-only conference to inviting a maximum of 30 caucasian women to participate to inviting one caucasian woman to participate on the planning committee. Bishop Leontine Kelly was the keynote speaker in 1991. The event includes workshops and ethnic gatherings to share spiritual journeys.

For more information, contact Margaret Campbell, 840 N.E. 95th, Seattle, WA 98115. (206) 525-4499.

Troy: Troy Conference Theological Academy and Troy AC/CSRW sponsored "Feminist Spirituality," a seminar for clergy and laity, women and men of faith. The purpose was to provide an

opportunity for exploring some of the roots of feminist spirituality and for discovering together how it is manifest in our lives and churches today.

The class began with an all-day Saturday plenary session. Then four additional meetings were held in three regional sections on Monday evenings. Keynote speaker was Catherine Keller, associate professor of constructive theology, Theological School, Drew University.

For more information, contact Loise George, 32 Benedict St., Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033. (518) 732-2128.

West Michigan: This AC/CSRW initiated a series of workshops across the conference called "Pathways to Collegueship," led by Carol Pierce and David Wagner. The text by Pierce and Bill Page is *A Male/Female Continuum: Paths to Collegueship*.

The purpose of the workshops is to explore the development of mutual relationships between men and women, not only in the church but also in business and personal life.

For more information, contact Laurie Haller, Hart UMC, 308 State St., Hart, MI 49420. (616) 873-3516.

Central Illinois: Money management is not often seen as a spiritual issue, but when we begin looking at concerns for freedom and wholeness, the spiritual dimensions of our personal finances becomes very important. That is the context for the workshop "Pathways to Spirituality: Managing Our Money," sponsored last fall by this annual conference.

Joyce Sohl, associate treasurer of the Women's Division, General Board of Global Ministries, led the workshop.

For more information, contact Alice Taylor, co-chair, 514 East Embert Place, Peoria, IL 61603. (309) 685-2176.

Equitable salaries for clergy

South Carolina: This commission studied salaries of the 54 clergywomen and 201 clergymen with comparable years of service (17 years or less) in the conference.

The results indicated that as of Jan. 1, 1991, women received on average \$1,675 less than men (\$27,323 vs. \$28,998). The study also revealed an invisible salary barrier: 13 percent of men in the study group made between \$35,001 and \$50,000, whereas no woman was in this salary range.

For information, contact Carol Cannon, P.O. Box 306, Whitmire, SC 29178. Office: (803) 694-3877. Home: (803) 694-3860.

Sexual harassment resources

With the 1992 General Conference approval of the resolution "Sexual Harassment and the United Methodist Church," United Methodist bodies are called to develop policies addressing sexual harassment and to educate their members on the issue. A number of UM bodies have already begun work on this issue.

For more information and resources for actions to take, contact the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. (708) 869-7330. ■

Resources

This listing of resources contains recent publications on issues important to women.

New!!!

Guidelines for Leading Your Church: STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN, 1993-1996. This quadrennial update of Guidelines contains extensive revisions. Particularly helpful is a new section, "Options for Action for Local Churches—A Sampler." Available from Cokesbury, (800) 672-1789. Paper \$1.50.

All We're Meant to Be: Biblical Feminism for Today, Letha Dawson Scanzoni and Nancy A. Hardesty (Eerdmans Publishing Company, Third Edition, 1992). As with editions in 1974 and 1986, the goal of the third edition is to keep alive and invigorate the discussion about the roles and dilemmas of women in society, home, and church. \$11.96. (800) 253-7521.

The Divorced Woman's Prayer Book, Ginger Farry (Paulist Press, 1992). A collection of poems and prayers reflecting God as the source and center of hope in the midst of the pain of divorce. Paper \$3.95.

Holy Women of Russia, Brenda Meehan (HarperSanFrancisco, coming March 1993). Against the rich backdrop of 19th-century Russia, the lives and spiritual journeys of five holy women offer inspiring, empowering models for individuals and collective spirituality. \$17.00.

God's Forgotten Daughter, A Modern Midrash: What If Jesus Had Been a Woman? Katherine Christine Schneider-Aker (LuraMedia, 1992). The author illuminates the story of Jesus by employing the age-old Jewish rabbinical device of the midrash, a commentary on scripture that takes off from the text to reflect upon its meaning. The author supposes a twin sister of Jesus. Paper \$10.95.

The Gospels and the Letters of Paul: An Inclusive-Language Edition, ed. Burton H. Throckmorton, Jr. (The Pilgrim Press, 1992). This work, the most often read portion of the New Testament, now joins *An Inclusive-Language Lectionary* and the *Inclusive-Language Psalms* in an attempt fully to reflect, in language and essence, the belief that all persons are equally loved, judged, and accepted by God. Paper \$15.95.

Outercourse: The Be-Dazzling Voyage, Mary Daly (HarperSanFrancisco, coming Jan. 1993). The philosophical autobiography of this radical feminist philosopher, this book recounts Daly's debunking of patriarchal thought and blazes new paths to freedom by enabling women to Discover the hidden connections that make Sense of their Lives. \$24.00.

The Power We Celebrate: Women's Stories of Faith and Power, ed. Musimbi R.A. Kanyoro and Wendy S. Robins (World Council of Churches Publications, 1992). A Lutheran

World Federation contribution to the Ecumenical Decade of Churches in Solidarity with Women, this varied collection of stories is ideal for local study groups looking for international content. Paper \$9.95 + \$2.50, shipping and handling. To order, call (800) 523-8211.

Seeking the Heart of God: Reflections on Prayer, Mother Teresa and Brother Roger (HarperSanFrancisco, coming Feb. 1993). Two of the world's most renowned and inspirational spiritual leaders combine their wisdom and experience to offer a practical, joyful celebration of the power of prayer. \$12.00.

Thinking About God: An Introduction to Theology, Dorothee Soelle (Trinity Press International, 1990). A text for introductory theology classes that includes both North American and European feminist sources in an historical framework. \$11.95.

The 13 Original Clan Mothers, Jamie Sams (HarperSanFrancisco, coming April 1993). Sams records here a lost tradition passed on to her by two Kiowa Grandmothers, and provides a tool that any woman can use to bring ancient feminine wisdom into her daily life. \$20.00.

The Woman Who Lost Her Heart, Susan O'Halloran and Susan Delattre (LuraMedia, 1992). Adult fable of a woman's journey to reclaim herself after losing her heart, her spirit, and her sense of aliveness. Paper \$10.95.

Video

Population and People of Faith: It's About Time. A VHS video that challenges viewers to become actively involved in helping stem population growth to provide a better quality of life for future generations. Enhancing the role and status of women is shown as a key to solving these problems. Available from ECUFILM, (800) 251-4091. Purchase \$29.95, includes shipping and one copy of discussion guide. Rental \$18.00, includes shipping one way and one copy of guide.

Calendars

Friends of Women has created a series of classic calendars reclaiming scripture for women. Reclaiming Advent: Jesus Tree—honors 12 women ancestors of Jesus, complete with doors to open, symbols, and scripture references. Reclaiming discipleship: Jesus Bush—honors 12 women of Galilee. Reclaiming leadership: Good News Tree—honors 7 other women of the Gospels. Reclaiming Pentecost: Burning Bush of the Spirit—honors 12 women who had the spirit of Jesus. Order from Friends of Women, PO Box 15164, Rio Rancho, NM 87174. \$7.25 each, discounts on bulk orders.

Magazine

Equal Means is a new magazine on women and economic justice published by the Ms. Foundation for Women. It is a quarterly forum on the strategies women are developing around

economic justice, economic development, and empowerment issues. \$24 per year. Send a check to Equal Means, Dept. F, 2512 9th St., Suite 3, Berkeley, CA 94710.

Catalog

National Women's History Project Catalog. This catalog contains a wealth of resources: posters, gifts, book, videos, display materials, classroom materials, and women's history celebration supplies. Order from NWHP, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492-8515. Phone: (707) 838-6000. Fax: (707) 838-0478. ■

WE'RE EXPANDING OUR SERVICES— YOU CAN HELP!

At the office of The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, we are using a new computer program to help catalog and update our resource listings to help us serve our constituents more effectively. As part of this process, we welcome your ideas for resource items we may have missed—books, videos, journals, pamphlets, organizations and the like.

Please send your ideas to Joanne Lindstrom, GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201. FAX: (708) 475-5061.

Status Report

UM women clergy increase

There's a total of 4,356 United Methodist women clergy, up 178 from 1991. About 3,310 are pastors (including full and part-time local pastors) serving local churches, and 333 are full conference members serving in appointments beyond the local church. The balance falls into a variety of categories (leave of absence, probationary members, retired, in school, etc.). Total UM (male and female) clergy membership in all categories is 39,801.

—Newscope, July 31, 1992.

Calendar

March 9-11, 1993

Sexuality and Power: Clergy Sexual Ethics and the Community. Leaders are Maura Tucker and Ron Barton. Sponsored by Auburn Theological Seminary, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027. (212) 662-4315.

March 12-14

Is Nothing Sacred? A Retreat for Women Survivors of Clergy Sexual Abuse. Led by Marie Fortune, director of the Center for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence. Contact Kirkridge, Bangor, PA 18013.

March 26-28

Women, Money & Spirituality. Sponsored by Ministry of Money. Contact MM, 2 Professional Dr., Suite 220, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

April 20-22

South Central Jurisdiction Clergy-women's Consultation, Lakeview Conference Center, Palestine, TX. The theme is "Graced with Identity: The Energy Woman," featuring key speakers Letty Russell, Carmen Renee Berry, and Valerie Russell. Also included are a number of workshops. For more information, contact Rita Sims Wiles, P.O. Box 299, Hamshire, TX 77622.

April 23-25

Women's Interseminary Conference. Theme is "Hearing God's Voice, Interpreting Our Call." Contact Sue Edersberger, Union Theological Seminary, 3401 Brook Rd., Richmond, VA 23227.

April 26-30

Play and Passion in Preaching. Leaders are Christine Smith and Margaret Moers Wenig. Sponsored by Auburn Theological Seminary (see above).

May 10-12

A Retreat with Phyllis Trible. Contact Kirkridge, Bangor, PA 18013.

June 7-11

Gaia and God: Ecofeminist Theology. Led by Rosemary Ruether. Contact Auburn Theological Seminary (see above).

Nov. 4-6

Global Women's Theological Colloquium. In celebration of the World Council of Churches' Women's Decade: "Reimaging God, Church, Community." Contact Sally Hill, Twin Cities Metropolitan Church Commission, 122 W. Franklin, Rm. 100, Minneapolis, MN 55404.

UM-related job openings

Please contact prospective employer when possible to confirm that search is continuing.

Part-time Development Field Associate Positions, METHESCO. Contact Cheryl Wierman Smoot, Director of Development, Methodist Theological School in Ohio, 3081 Columbus Pike, P.O. Box 1204, Delaware, OH 43015-0931. (614) 363-1146.

Faculty appointment in Pastoral Care and Counseling, Saint Paul School of Theology. Apply by Dec. 1 or until position is filled. Contact Judith L. Orr, Ph.D., Academic Dean, Saint Paul School of Theology, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO 64127. (816) 483-9600.

Faculty appointment in Theology of Evangelism and Mission, Saint Paul School of Theology. Apply by Jan. 15. Contact Judith L. Orr, Ph.D., Academic Dean, Saint Paul School of Theology, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO 64127. (816) 483-9600.

Associate Director, East Ohio Conference Council on Ministries. Focus is church camping ministries. Apply by Jan. 21, 1993. Contact Dr. Mareyjoyce Green, Chairperson, Staff Supervisory Committee, East Ohio CCOM, 8800 Cleveland NW—Box 2800, North Canton, OH 44720. ■

*You can help support women in the church—
subscribe to **The Flyer***

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

Your subscription will guarantee that you receive **The Flyer** for one more year.

Yes, I would like to continue to receive **The Flyer**:

- \$7.50 for one year
 \$12.50 for two years

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Annual Conference (if United Methodist) _____

Send your check to: **The Flyer,**

The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women,
1200 Davis, Evanston, IL 60201.

Convenes April 16-18

WOMEN-CHURCH/MUJER-IGLESIA: Tejedoras de Cambio

The Third U.S. Women-Church Conference "Women-Church Convergence: Weavers of Change," will convene on April 16-18 in Albuquerque, NM, to provide an opportunity for women to deepen our understanding of the richness and depth of women's experiences.

Women's racial, cultural, ethnic, sexual, economic, class, physical, and spiritual diversity, unified by our sense of the Sacred, can be the starting point of collective action for personal and structural transformation in religious and other social institutions. Recognition of the experience of the holy and sacred in each cultural group can lead to the discovery of a basic human unity or harmony as both source and goal of social action.

For more information, contact the Coordinating Team, PO Box 1025, Melrose, MA 02176. (617) 662-2102 or (617) 524-7030; FAX (617) 662-7706.

Mujer-Iglesia: Tejedoras de Cambio, es una conferencia iniciada por la Convergencia de Mujer-Iglesia, Inc., que tendrá lugar del 16 al 18 de abril de 1993, en Albuquerque, Nuevo Mexico, con el propósito de proporcionar la oportunidad de dialogar y reconocer la riqueza, diversidad y profundidad de ser mujer.

El entendimiento de nuestra diversidad y el reconocimiento de las diferencias culturales, étnicas, raciales, físicas, sexuales, económicas, religiosas y espirituales y de clase, junto a nuestra experiencia de lo Sagrado, propone ser el comienzo de una meditación colectiva para llevar a cabo la transformación de las estructuras religiosas y seculares en este país y para iniciar una conversión personal. El reconocimiento de lo santo y sagrado en la vida de cada grupo cultural puede guiarnos al descubrimiento de una nueva hermandad que necesariamente debe estar en la raíz y en el propósito de las futuras acciones de justicia social iniciadas por la mujer.

Para más información, llame al Grupo de Coordinación: Te. 617-662-2102, 617-524-7030, o escriba a: PO Box 1025, Melrose, MA 02176. ■

FOCUS: Celebration of Women

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

The history of African-American women—a story of strength and dignity—remains largely overlooked today. Focus on women during Black History Month this February:

- Mount a display of posters or postcards.
- Show a video for a special lunchtime program.
- Organize a reading of excerpts from your favorite African-American woman author.

The National Women's History Project

carries books, posters, videos, and curriculum materials for all ages on multi-cultural women's history. Call or write for a copy of the 48-page catalog: NWHP, 7738 Bell Road, Windsor, CA 95492-8515. Phone: (707) 838-6000. Fax: (707) 838-0478.

MARCH

Women's History Month

Here are some resources to help plan for Women's History Month:

- **The Interpreter:** The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

outlines ideas for local church celebrations of women in the "Idea Mart" section of the February-March issue.

■ **Telling Their Stories: The History of Women in the Local Church, A Resource Packet:**

This helpful packet suggests a variety of ways for local church women to celebrate their histories. Prepared by the General Commission on Archives and History, P.O. Box 127, Madison, NJ 07940.

- Consult the National Women's History Project catalog described above for a wealth of ideas and resources. ■



The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women

in the United Methodist Church
1200 Davis Street, Evanston, Illinois 60201