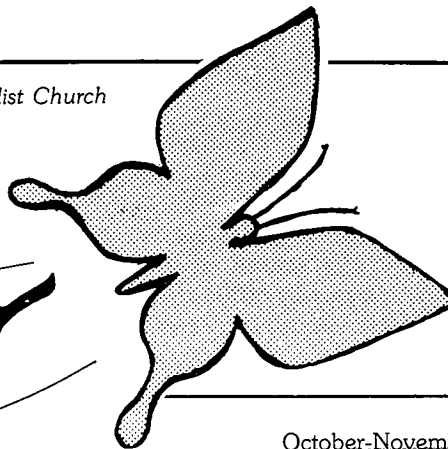


The Flyer



Volume VIII, No. 4

October-November 1986



GCSRW Vice-President Ressie Bass presided in the absence of President H. Sharon Howell (left).

Bishop Forrest Stith and Rev. Elizabeth Reed conducted the closing communion (right).

GCSRW Meeting Next Steps in Homophobia Study

The issue homophobia continued to affect the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women at its September 25-28 meeting, with one item being consideration of next steps to the GCSRW's February, 1986, one-day study on the linkages of homophobia and sexism.

Following a lengthy discussion, members agreed to offer the model — without the content or learnings — to other general boards and agencies, and to encourage them to undertake similar studies. They also accepted an Issue Development, Education and Advocacy (IDEA) Work Unit proposal to prepare in written form common learnings and an articulation of the linkages of sexism and homophobia. The IDEA unit will also compare learnings among agencies who undertake the study.

During discussion of next steps, members continued to express fear concerning the impact of the homophobia study on the reputation and future of the General Commission. Several said they felt the need to bring other boards and agencies into supportive roles, recognizing that undertaking the study alone might

*cause the commission to appear to be

an isolated, "one-issue" agency

*detract from other issues of concern to the commission

*trivialize the issue of homophobia as being addressed "only" by a "women's" commission.

Other concerns expressed included the need to

*be able to advocate for open discussion of homophobia without being seen as an advocate for homosexuality

*open the eyes of the general church to homophobia

*collect further information on studies already completed by other general boards and agencies

*put together a resource packet outlining the model and materials used

*document learnings to help the denomination.

Commission members considered legislation for the 1988 General Conference, including several dealing with inclusive language and homosexuality.

Legislation to require one-third membership of women on Annual Conference and District Boards of Trustees and the Judicial Council passed overwhelmingly.

The Monitoring and Research Work Unit

reported on revisions in its monitoring of seminaries and general boards and agencies, so that contacts and resulting reports will be sent to four (rather than one) persons, and a follow-up visit/review scheduled. Reports from monitoring at the Board of Discipleship, Claremont School of Theology and Duke Divinity School are just about completed, with a visit to Perkins School of Theology scheduled for late fall.

During its visits to seminaries and boards and agencies the GCSRW looks at the participation of women, including racial ethnic minority women, in leadership and decision-making structures, and at Affirmative Action, fair employment practices and grievance procedures.

The commission learned that as a result of its monitoring, four women were added — with voice but not vote — as observers to the membership of the Commission on the Mission of The United Methodist Church. As originally constituted by the Council of Bishops, in consultation with the General Council on Ministries, the committee had five women and 22 men.

The GCSRW approved a budget of \$448,662.

Options for Action

North Georgia — In its report to the 1986 Annual Conference, the CSRW reported on its monitoring of women in top leadership positions. The chart below shows the results of the monitoring, with the column on the left showing the churches in terms of size and number. Noted chairperson Melinda Jones: "The first column on the right shows the number of churches with NO women in any of these positions. Ideally, there should be all zeros here." The rest of the columns show the number of women in each position and the

percentage of that category church these numbers represent.

Two of the eight districts responding didn't have a single status and role of women work area chair. The CSRW noted a correlation (not apparent on the graph) between those districts which had status and role of women chairpersons and the number of women in top leadership positions. The CSRW further noted that women represent approximately 56% of the church membership.

Women Chairs in North Georgia Conference Churches

Church Membership (Number of Churches)	None	COSROW	Adm. Bd./ Council	Council on Ministries	Trustees	Finance	PPR Comm.
Under 100 (222)	74 33%	7 3%	37 17%	43 19%	16 7%	62 28%	78 35%
100-249 (128)	34 27%	11 9%	25 20%	42 33%	9 7%	25 20%	49 38%
250-499 (63)	18 29%	14 22%	5 8%	25 40%	0 0%	5 8%	19 30%
500-749 (25)	9 36%	5 20%	2 8%	6 24%	0 0%	3 12%	1 4%
750-999 (11)	1 9%	2 18%	2 18%	6 55%	1 9%	0 0%	4 36%
1000-1499 (11)	2 18%	3 27%	4 36%	6 55%	1 9%	1 9%	0 0%
1500-2000 (11)	4 36%	2 18%	0 0%	4 36%	0 0%	0 0%	2 18%
Over 2000 (8)	2 25%	3 37%	1 13%	5 63%	1 13%	0 0%	1 13%

South Carolina — As part of its Annual Conference report the CSRW monitored elected leadership in local churches, using statistics from the quarterly conference reports of local churches. Chairperson Barbara Boultinghouse noted in her report

that small rural churches tend to be those in which the Pastor Parish Relations Committee chairperson is a woman. She also noted the disciplinary mandate to have 1/3 of the trustees women.

Elected Leadership in Local Churches
South Carolina Annual Conference

position	1985			1986		
	men	women	couples	men	women	couples
lay leader	87%	13%	—	85%	15% (+)	
admin. bd chair	83%	17%		81%	19% (+)	
finance chair	80%	20%		80%	20% (0)	
coun. on min. chair	57%	43%		46%	54% (+)	
evangelism chair	28%	70%	2%	36%	64% (-)	
youth coordinator	16%	76%	8%	23%	69% (-)	8%
church & soc coord.	19%	81%		25%	75% (-)	
missions chair	12%	87%	1%	13%	86% (-)	1%
PPRC chair (8 dist.)				63%	37%	
trustess (5 dist.)				91%	9%	

Red Bird Missionary — Of the eleven pastors serving 21 churches in the conference, none are women, the CSRW noted in its report to the 1986 Annual Conference. The CSRW had determined in November, 1985, that men filled all executive positions in the agencies. Other monitoring reported at the Annual Conference revealed 83 (33%) of the 250 members of commissions, committees and councils are women (with one church of 21 not reporting). Leadership in local churches is 198 (65%) women.

A questionnaire circulated at a spring United Methodist Women's event will help identify concerns of women the CSRW needs to address.

California-Nevada — At its August meeting the CSRW took a stand against the LaRouche AIDS quarantine, Proposition 64, which will be on the California November ballot. The CSRW is urging all United Methodists to work and vote against the proposition, which would require reporting of names of persons suspected of being exposed to the AIDS virus and possibly result in house arrest, forced firings and expulsion of students.

Detroit — "Women's Changing Role in the World" is the theme of a conference for women and men sponsored by the Detroit CSRW along with the Section on Emerging/Women's Issues, Division of Church and Society; Division of Leader Development; and United Methodist Women. Speakers include Bishop Judith Craig and the Rev. Dr. Donna Morton Stout, Associate General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society. Workshops will focus on law, women as change agents, media, health, electoral politics, language, effective leadership, economics, the home and education. Members of the West Michigan CSRW will also attend.

Mississippi — In an effort to encourage local churches to elect status and role of women work area chairs, the CSRW has held six training sessions. It also added 24 related books to the conference library. The CSRW offers workshops on biblical passages relating to women, social issues facing Mississippi women, and on creating right relationships with "the preacher's wife."

Missouri East — Informational kits for each of the areas, committees and commissions within the conference are being created by the Resource Committee. Local church persons with responsibilities in those areas can then check the kits out of the conference library. The CSRW representative to the Resource Committee is gathering materials for the CSRW box.

Continue push for inclusive language

The percentage of mail from persons who support inclusive language in the revised hymnal is "so small as to be practically immeasurable," hymnal consultant Carolyn Henninger Oehler told members of the GCSRW at their September, 1986 meeting. Out of 1,000 letters to the United Methodist Hymnal Revision Committee, perhaps 40 will be supportive in some way, she said.

Oehler urged members of the Commission and others who want inclusive language in the new hymnal to write the committee. "It is very vulnerable to public opinion," Oehler said.

The committee has not made major changes in the language of existing hymns. Oehler said she was "disappointed and disturbed that many of the same kinds of compromises (in allowing sexist language) are being made in new materials." Many living composers, particularly those who've written evangelical hymns, are refusing to allow any wording changes to make songs more inclusive, Oehler reported.

Clergywomen consultations at Nairobi



Two clergywomen consultations were held in conjunction with the World Methodist Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, July 21-29, 1986. Kathy Nickerson, Division of Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, coordinated the events.

Twenty African women from the nine African conferences (3 in Zaire, one each in Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Liberia, Sierra Leone — those from Burundi could not leave their country) met and formed a network organization. A representative was elected from each conference to bring together clergywomen in each conference and to act as coordinators for future consultations.

Marie Smith Eastman (Liberia) presented a paper on theological education. Women, she said, are still in the struggle of resurrection morn when women tell of the risen Christ and men do not hear. "We must

Language in the psalter will be inclusive, Oehler said, making that section "perhaps the most significant contribution the hymnal will make."

Witness unity among Korean Christian women

A three-year process which culminated in an August, 1985, gathering of more than 4,000 women bore witness to the growing unity among Korean Protestant women. For the first time in 100 years of Protestant activity in Korean, 20 denominations' women's organizations and four other Christian women's groups came together in a unified effort to celebrate their Centennial and to look ahead into the next century of Christian life in Korea. "This unified group far exceeds any the male-dominated church has been able to achieve — both in spread of theological diversity and in numbers of people represented," reported an observer.

The Korean Women's Centennial Committee, representing 5 1/2 million women, went through a three-year process of communication and consensus-building

confront the men with truth in love".

The Central Conferences Clergywomen Consultation was made up of one clergywoman from each Central Conference (Zimbabwe, Zaire, Mozambique, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Angola, Philippines, Hungary, Norway, Germany). These women shared their stories and compared their lives and church programs, learning much from each other. Clergywomen in Africa are more highly educated than many local pastors who are men with families. Several women have large churches or circuits with men under them. The church grows in Hungary where it is oppressed and is struggling in Germany and Norway where state churches tend to bring apathy.

Randy Day and Ruth Steach from GCSRW observed the meetings and reported to the Commission.

— by Ruth Steach, GCSRW member.

which led to this statement of direction: "The mothers of the Church and the people resolve on the occasion of the Centennial to overcome division in the Church and the Nation and the male-centered system in the Church and the Society."

As part of its work the committee sponsored ten regional ecumenical women's meetings, published a 100-year Korean church history from the women's perspective, declared a national women's day, sponsored prayer-fasts as a "Mothers' Movement for Church Unity and Peace," initiated the Women's Christian Institute, and held a series of events in August, 1985 in celebration.

— information from the "Asian Rights Advocate," originally printed in Oct. 1985 issue of "Christian Thoughts of Korea"

Nearly 100 years of ordination

In response to the August-September 1986 "Flyer" on the ordination of women in The United Methodist Church, reader Lois C. Olsen of Milwaukee, Wis., wrote to note:

"The United Brethren in Christ (a predecessor denomination to The United Methodist Church) ordained the first women in 1889, almost 100 years ago. Please give credit to the farsighted people who ordained women clergy a century ago." Credit given!

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.

Editor: Patricia Broughton
Design and Layout: Penny Nichols

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:
H. Sharon Howell, President * Ressie Mae Bass,
Vice-President * Albert Jones, Secretary

General Secretariat:
Geneva Harton Dalton * Kiyoko Kasai Fujii * Nancy
Grissom Self

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(312) 869-7330

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GCSRW, UCom develop sexism education model

A design team of members and staff of the GCSRW and United Methodist Communications has developed a model for education about sexism and related issues.

"I think the process used by the two agencies for this educative, participatory examination of sexism is one that could be replicated many times and for any agency, board and/or group in the church," said Geneva Harton-Dalton, member of the GCSRW General Secretariat.

The process began more than a year ago, with a request by Roger Burgess, then General Secretary for UCom, for training sessions for the UCom board and staff. A joint committee of GCSRW and UCom staff and members met in March, 1986, to determine content, participants, resource persons, and anticipated outcomes. Members of the design team present were GCSRW members Judith Hill and Don Mendenhall, GCSRW secretariat member Dalton, and UCom staff Newtonia Harris and Barbara Dunlap-Berg. Don Ott, member of UCom, was absent.

The design team recommended that UCom focus on

1. identifying the nature of sexism
2. stressing the importance of individual commitment to eliminate sexism
3. highlighting the need to continually address issues of gender inclusiveness in publications and productions of UCom
4. Providing an atmosphere in which people could take ownership of the issues involved and of their own concerns and needs related to the issues
5. Developing an awareness about one's identity as a woman or as a man.

Additionally, the design team recommended a gender- and racially-inclusive resource team to provide the training. Consequently, Dean Jualynne Dotson of Union Theological Seminary and Rev. Sam Phillips, Council Director of the South Indiana Conference, were selected to facilitate a workshop for UCom members at its October, 1986, meeting. They will also provide training for UCom staff in early 1987.

"The Commission is excited and gratified about the invitation to be involved in eliminating sexism in the United Methodist Church in such a constructive fashion," Dalton said. "Too often we're perceived as being in an 'over and against' stance. We're much happier having the church seek us out as helpers rather than firefighters."

The GCSRW is available to other agencies on request.



Racial Ethnic Minority Women Prioritize

The needs and concerns of racial ethnic minority women in the United Methodist Church are being addressed by a committee of racial ethnic minority women, gathered together by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

At their first meeting in August, the committee of nine, including Black American, Asian American, Native American and Hispanic American women, reviewed materials from previous United Methodist and ecumenical gatherings of racial ethnic minority women. The committee then drew up a list of recommendations for the GCSRW, racial ethnic minority caucuses, and other general boards and agencies. The recommendations will be reviewed by the ethnic caucuses, returned to the GCSRW Coordinating Committee for its December meeting, then sent on to the appropriate bodies.

Among the recommendations common to all of the racial ethnic minority groups were

- *recruiting and supporting women to serve at all levels of the church
- *study of the linkages between racism and sexism
- *advocacy for open itinerancy and appointment of racial ethnic women to positions beyond "first church appointments"
- *development and utilization of resources on social issues
- *translation of 'Women's Reality,' by Anne Wilson Schaefer, into Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Spanish
- *strengthening advocacy by the GCSRW
- *elimination by the General Council on Ministries of the double standard for women of color in elected leadership, employment and termination
- *legislation to address comparable worth and equal pay for equal work
- *development of a resource sheet for ethnic women entering seminary
- *report on Missional Priority objectives
- *recognition, respect, affirmation of variety of cultural modes of ministry.

Teams Invited to Regional Training Events

A dialogue between Carolyn Henninger Oehler, former GCSRW president and Northern Illinois Conference Council director, and Forrest Stith, GCSRW member and Bishop of the North Central New York Conference, will highlight three GCSRW regional training events to be held in early 1987. Conferences are being invited to send teams of six persons: two Annual Conference CSRW members, two local church chairpersons, and two staff or cabinet members. Participants will attend workshops in "role" groupings as well as conference groupings.

Cost for registration, room and board at the three-day events is \$75, with limited space at all three sites. A \$25 non-refundable deposit will secure registration.

The GCSRW, at its September meeting, voted to provide \$9,000 from its "Empowering Women for the Second Decade" fund to help local church persons cover costs. An additional \$9,000 was made available from the general operating budget for any person needing travel assistance.

Dates and places are as follows:

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

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

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

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

Strengthening the circle: UM Native American women gathering

About 280 Native American United Methodist women are expected to gather in October, 1987, in a national consultation to be sponsored by the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women.

The event will allow Native American women to "strengthen the circle of their sharing by meeting other Native American women, and by learning how to participate more fully in God's work through the United Methodist Church," said GCSRW General Secretariat member Geneva Harton Dalton, staff for the planning committee.

Resource persons meeting with the planning committee are Marvin Abrams,

executive director of the Native American International Caucus; Josephine Bigler, staff from the General Board of Global Ministries; Joanne Eslinger, staff from the General Board of Discipleship; and Dalton.

The GCSRW is sponsoring this event in partial fulfillment of one of its 1985-1988 quadrennial goals, and as a way of participating in the churches commitment to the Missional Priority: Developing and Strengthening the Ethnic Minority Local Church for Witness and Mission. The GCSRW budgeted \$8,000 of its 1987 budget for the event. The future of the consultation is dependent on additional funding being requested of other UMC agencies.

Ovations

To two women named deans of their cabinets (firsts in each conference):

Susan W. Hassinger, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference

Patricia Townsend, New York Conference

To Frances M. Alguire, chairperson of the Commission on the General Conference planning for St. Louis in 1988, who was elected president of the North American Section of the World Methodist Council at the recent quinquennial meeting in Nairobi, Kenya.

To Mary Lou Santillan Baert, a staff member of the UM Board of Discipleship and formerly a pastor and missionary, who has been named to the staff of Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

To Cheryl Coates, who was named as the Wyoming Conference's first fulltime staff person in communications. She is the first minority communications person in any UM annual conference, excepting those with all-ethnic minority constituents.

To Kristine A. Culp, who was appointed Instructor in Theology (tenure track) at Saint Paul School of Theology.

To Mary Gaddis, whose construction project, Women Empowering Women (WE Women), was featured in the May, 1986, issue of *Ms.* magazine. The project, funded in part by a grant from the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries, gives women an opportunity to learn construction skills while building a women's retreat center.

To the General Board of Discipleship for its inclusive use of God as Father and God as Mother in take-home church school literature for elementary age children, as well as for a leaflet with the baptismal formula: "I baptise you in the name of God the Creator."

To the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM), for its policy of inclusive language in the journal "Quarterly Review," and for the UM Student Day bulletin insert which included in a litany the phrase "God our Father and God our Mother."

Also to the **GBHEM** and the **13 United Methodist seminaries** which filled 16 positions during the past year with women, due in part to some GBHEM funding. At present women and racial ethnic minority persons fill 31 per cent of the seminaries' full-time faculty positions, 44 per cent of

the administrative positions, and 46 per cent of the student slots, according to GBHEM.

To Carolyn DeSwarte Gifford, for her pioneering work as coordinator of the Women's and Ethnic History project at the General Commission on Archives and History. She is leaving the position to return to Evanston, IL.

To Eileen Gray, conference UM Women president, who was named first woman conference lay leader in the Western Pennsylvania Conference.

To Ai-Ra Kim, who was ordained deacon in the Northern New Jersey Conference, the first Korean woman deacon in the conference.

To Peggy Hutchison, a UM found guilty of conspiracy in efforts to aid undocumented immigrants, who has been named a "Hero for Hard Times" by MOTHER JONES magazine (July-August 1986). She was selected from hundreds of nominations from 42 states and parts of Canada as one who exemplified the spirit of Mary Harris Jones, a social revolutionist for whom the magazine is named. (From Sept. 5, 1986, "Newscope.")

To Emmy Lou John, who was elected treasurer of the World Federation of Methodist Women; her aunt, Myrtle Pfeiffer, held the same position from 1966 to 1971, prior to serving as president of the world federation from 1971 to 1976. The federation unites about six million women in all Methodist and United Methodist churches from more than 60 countries.

To Bishop Leotine Kelly of the San Francisco area who will appear Nov. 15 and 16 on 'Catch the Spirit' in a 10-minute report on the World Methodist Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya, July 23-29.

To Nellie Lane, of Brunswick, ME, a retired American Baptist pastor who has served UM churches in Maine, who received the Maine Conference's first annual award for contributions to women in ministry.

To Marilyn W. Magee, executive director of Black Methodists for Church Renewal in the Northern Illinois Conference, who was elected assistant general secretary, Ministry of the Laity Section, GBOD.

To the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, which is inducting the late Bishop Marjorie Matthews at its third annual awards dinner.

To the Northwest Texas Annual Conference which received its first husband-wife team named as co-pastors in a local church.

To Carolyn Henninger Oehler, former president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, who was re-elected president of the Church Federation of greater Chicago for a second consecutive term. The first woman to head the Church Federation, Oehler directs the Northern Illinois Conference Council on Ministries.

To Judith Orr, who has accepted the position of assistant professor of pastoral care at the Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, MO.

To Beverly Reddick, who served for nearly nine years as a member of the program staff with one of her responsibilities being the Iowa Conference Commission on the Status and Role of Women. Reddick has resigned her conference staff position and plans to move to Washington, D.C.

To Marie Smith-Eastman, who was named District Superintendent in Liberia in early 1986. She is the second woman to serve as a district superintendent in that country; **Evelyn Kandakai**, the first woman in that position, is currently chief of armed force chaplains of Liberia.

To Linda E. Thomas, a pastor at Memorial UMC in White Plains, NY, who has been named dean of students at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. Thomas was elected a member of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women at its fall, 1986, meeting.

To Becky Thompson, who was consecrated the first diaconal minister in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. She is the Conference Council of Ministries director.

To Lorene F. Wilbur, of Shelburne, VT, a businesswoman active in the local church and conference, who has been elected as associate general secretary for administration for the General Board of Global Ministries.

To Barbara Brown Zikmund, dean of the faculty at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, who has been elected president of the Association of Theological Schools. Zikmund, a United Church of Christ minister, is the first woman to head the organization of 200 U.S. and Canadian schools.

Nov. 6 **Women-Men Liberation and Religion in America.** Lecture by Rosemary Radford Ruether, professor at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Part of the 1986 Interdisciplinary Series at The University of Dayton: "With Both Eyes Open: Seeing Beyond Gender." Free and open to the public. For complete schedule write Patricia Altenbernd Johnson, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Dayton, Dayton, OH 45469-0001.

Nov. 6-8 **Women, Their Experiences and Image of God: Impact on the Congregation.** Workshop for lay and ordained women sponsored by the Alban Institute exploring biblical images and stories, religious experiences and experiences in community. At Stony Point, NY. Write Alban Institute, 4125 Nebraska Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016. (800) 457-8893.

Nov. 7-9 **Building Women-Church: A Hope for the Future.** An exploration of the development and theology of women-church and its implications for spirituality; with Rosemary Ruether, author of "Women-Church: Theology and Practice of Feminist Liturgical Communities." Contact Grailville, 932 O'Bannonville Road, Loveland, OH 45140. (513) 683-2340.

Dec. 27-30 **Sisterhood is Global.** Survey of position of women worldwide; analysis of relations between gender oppression and oppressions based on race, class, nationality and ethnicity. At Grailville (See Nov. 7-9 above.)

Jan. 13, 1987 **Women, Church and Theology.** First session of five; weekly Saint Paul School of Theology continuing education course introducing the critiques and contributions of feminist theology. With Kristine A. Culp. \$60. Write Office of Continuing Education, Saint Paul School of Theology, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO 64127.

Jan. 16-18, 1987 **GCSRW Regional Training Event.** In Winter Park (near Orlando) FL. Theme: Claiming Our Connections, Empowering One Another. Leadership team: Carolyn Henninger Oehler, Northern Illinois Conference council director and past GCSRW president; Forrest Stith, Bishop, North Central New York Conference and current GCSRW member. Write GCSRW, 1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201.

Jan. 21-23, 1987 **The Power Equity Group: Making It Work.** Experience-based workshop for women and men exploring functioning of groups with an assumption of power equity. In Connec-

icut with Carol Pierce, 21 Shore Road, Laconia, NH 03246. (803) 524-1441.

Jan. 23-25, 1987 **GCSRW Regional Training Event.** Gilmary Retreat Center, Corapolis (near Pittsburg) PA. (See Jan. 16-18 above.)

Feb. 16-18, 1987 **Biblical Images of Women & Men and Their Evolution: A Challenge for the Church Today.** Princeton Theological Seminary continuing education course with Princeton faculty Lois Gehr Livezy, Clarice Martin, Kathleen McVey. Fee: \$125. Write Center for Continuing Education, PTS, 12 Library Place, Princeton, NJ 08540.

March 15-18, 1987 **Christian Feminist Spirituality.** Conference on women's faith development and the rhythm of personal spirituality and prophetic ministry. In Milwaukee. Registration \$75; room and board about \$75. Limited to 140. Sponsored by the Commission on Women in Ministry (COWIM), the National Council of Churches' Women in Ministry Project. Contact Joan Speaks, WIM Project, 475 Riverside Dr., Room 770, New York, NY 10115. (212) 870-2144.

Mar. 27-29, 1987 **GCSRW Regional Training Event.** Foothill Conference Center, Morrison (near Denver) CO. (See Jan. 16-18 above.)

May 21-23, 1987 **Women, Their Experiences and Images of God: Impact on The Congregation.** Outside Charleston, SC. (See Nov. 6-8 above.)

June 24-28, 1987 **Weaving Women's Colors: A Decade of Empowerment.** Conference on the intersection of race and gender, at Spelman College, Atlanta, GA, sponsored by the National Women's Studies Association. Contact NSWA '87, Emory Univ., PO Box 21223, Atlanta, GA 30322.

June 26-30, 1987 **Consultation on Language, Thought and Social Justice.** National invitational consultation sponsored by the Division of Education and Ministry of the National Council of Churches (NCC) to bring 125 language, theology and/or social justice leaders together. Applications from Jean Huffman, staff, Consultation on Language, Thought and Social Justice, Room 704, NCC, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115-0500.

Aug. 17-21, 1987 **Fourth UMC Clergwomen's Consultation.** Theme: Wellsprings of Hope: Proclamation, Power, Prayer, Prophecy. At the Great Gorge Americana Resort Hotel, McAfee, NJ.

Seeking vision of UM laity

United Methodist laypersons are invited to write and submit a speech that "best captures the spirit and visions of United Methodist laity." The best speech, as determined by the National Association of Annual Conference Lay Leaders, will be delivered at the 1988 General Conference by the author or a designee.

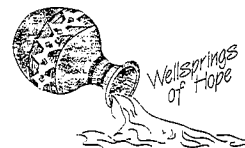
Five finalists will deliver their addresses to the February, 1988, association meeting, and the best chosen.

The denomination-wide search is a departure from the process used for the 1980 and 1984 General Conferences, when a small committee composed and delivered the speeches.

Speeches must be submitted in English, typed (double spaced), with the author's name on a cover sheet, but not on the pages of the text. Verbal presentation should be 20 minutes or less.

Mail entries to The Section on Ministry of the Laity, General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 840, Nashville, TN 37202. Deadline is June 30, 1987.

'Feel the movement: the women must be gathering'



Invitations are being issued for the fourth gathering of United Methodist clergwomen, a chance to celebrate the creative ministries of women and to find space for renewal, re-creation and revitalizing.

Gathering in August of 1987 under the theme "Wellsprings of Hope," the five-day event will focus on

*Prayer: daily opportunities for the many forms of prayer: meditation, healing, yoga, jogging, swimming, liturgical movement, clay, mime.

*Power: exploring new and old images of power through story telling, drama, worship, sharing.

*Proclamation: sharing unique styles, creative and practical approaches to proclamation.

*Prophecy: exploring prophetic and justice issues through art forms and evening celebrations.

Consultation limited to first 1,000 registrants. Write Division of Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, PO Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202-0871.

***Of note re clergwomen gathering: More than a dozen women (and many children) from the California-Nevada Conference gathered in May and again in September to share their experiences as clergwomen who are mothers.

Resources

Women and Children Under Apartheid Newsletter. Mimeographed bulletin produced by the Women's Section of the African National Congress combines longer articles about recent developments with brief reports of incidents of repression and resistance that mark the lives of women and children living in apartheid South Africa. African National Congress, 801 Second Ave., Suite 405, New York, NY 10017.

American Women: Our Spirituality in Our Own Words. Editors Catherine Racette and Peg Reynolds, C.S.J., having spent nine weeks being with women throughout the U.S., present 36 women talking about their lives and their spirituality. The stories, seemingly unedited and often unfocused, do offer useful glimpses into a variety of women's lives and faith journeys. Bear & Company, Inc., 1984. \$8.95 pb.

Lura Media Gift Catalog. Includes seven excellent women's books ("The Maid of the North: Feminist Folk Tales From Around the World," "The Mother's Songs: Images of God the Mother," "The Recreation of Eve," "Braided Streams: Esther and a Woman's Way of Growing," "The Woman's Tale: A Journal of Inner Exploration," "Womanspirit: A Guide to Women's Wisdom," and "A Map of the New Country: Women and Christianity,") as well as numerous other inclusive books, tapes and materials for spiritual renewal. Write LuraMedia, PO Box 261668, San Diego, CA 92126-0998.

Much Beloved Daughter. The story of a Chinese woman, Florence Tim Oi Li, the first woman ever to be ordained priest (1944) by an Anglican bishop. An easy to read biography of a pioneering clergywoman. Morehouse-Barlow Co., Inc., 78 Danbury Road, Wilton, CN 06897. 1985. \$6.95 pb.

Sister Marjorie Tuite: advocate for women

Sister Marjorie Tuite, a prominent Roman Catholic justice advocate and the national coordinator of the National Assembly of Women Religious, died June 28 at the age of 63. She was director of Ecumenical Action for Church Women United and a member of the Dominican Sisters of Columbus, OH. Tuite was among 24 nuns who incurred the wrath of the Vatican by signing an ad in "The New York Times" calling for dialogue on abortion.

Psalms Anew. An inclusive-language version of the 150 Psalms; substitutes the term "Yahweh" for "Lord." Attractive, spiral-bound book from Saint Mary's Press, Terrace Heights, Winona, MN 55987. 1986.

WCC Publications. The publications catalog of the World Council of Churches includes a section on women in church and society with numbers of useful books and resources. Write US Office of the WCC, 475 Riverside Dr., Rm. 1062, New York, NY 10115-0050. (212) 870-2533.

The Dance of Anger: A Woman's Guide to Changing the Patterns of Intimate Relationships. Author Harriet Goldhor Lerner shows how anger in women signals too much compromise, and how women's anger is often ineffectively expressed and functions to preserve the status quo. Using personal stories, she shows how change in oneself can change the "dance," or pattern of relating, with one's partner, parent or child. Harper and Row, 1985. \$15.95 hb.

Gay/Lesbian Liberation: A Biblical Perspective. This book shows, on biblical grounds, the connections between gay/lesbian liberation and liberation theology. Author George R. Edwards disputes biblical sanctions against gay/lesbian persons, which rest on judgements read into biblical texts. Edwards explores the roots of homophobia, and the roots of God's love for all human beings. The Pilgrim Press, 1984. \$9.95 pb.

"Speak a Healing Word." Buttons to publicize use of "Words That Hurt That Heal" study on inclusive language. Available for 50 cents each from the Northern New Jersey CSRW. Make check payable to NNJ Christian Education Fund and mail to Rev. S. Trumbetta, 100 North Sussex St., Dover, NJ 07801.

Feminine Spirituality and the Feminine Divine: An Annotated Bibliography.

Author Anne Carson provides a balanced overview of theology, the study of the Divine as Goddess, rather than as God. She surveys countercultural feminist spirituality as well as feminist fantasy fiction. Included are mainline Christian feminists, Jewish feminism, Native American shamanism and Buddhism. Intended as a library reference work; only 500 copies issued. May be printed in paperback. \$39.95.

Powerful Images: a Women's Guide to Audiovisual Resources. Guide (220 pages) to videos, slideshows, films depicting women worldwide. Includes annotated catalog of some 600 audiovisuals, nearly all produced by women; productions from the Third World emphasized. Also includes directory of 250 producers and distributors, technical articles on use of audiovisual explaining basic equipment and methods, and eight accounts of experiences of Third World women in making and using media. Isis International (Via Santa Maria Dell-Anima, 30, 00186 Rome, Italy), 1986. \$12 plus \$7 airmail shipping.

Methodist Women: A World Sisterhood. Just released 209-page history of the World Federation of Methodist Women, 1923-1986, on the occasion of their meeting in Kenya. General editor, Rosemary Keller. Inquire World Methodist Council, Lake Junaluska, NC 28745.

The Women Came Early. History of women in the West Virginia conference, prepared this year by The Task Force on Women's History Project of the West Virginia Annual Conference. Illustrated paperback of 279 pages: \$8 (includes postage and handling) from Cokesbury, 612 E. Washington St., Charleston, WV 25301.

Cynthia Wedel: 'First Lady of Ecumenism'

Cynthia Wedel, the only woman president of the National Council of Churches (1969-72), commonly celebrated as the "First Lady of Ecumenism," died August 24 at the age of 77. She was a president of the World Council of Churches from 1975 to 1983, having been the first woman to serve as an NCC associate general secretary (for Christian unity) and president of Church Women United. She was a strong promoter of equal rights for women in church and society, an early advocate of women's ordination in her own Episcopal Church.



Cynthia Wedel

Commission Talent Scout

Director, Women's and Ethnic History, General Commission on Archives and History, UMC. Research, administrative, writing and editing skills. Master's degree required, Ph.D. desirable. Selection based on Affirmative Action/EEO guidelines, with special consideration given women and ethnic minority applicants. Salary range: \$23,000-\$30,000. Deadline: Dec. 31. Write Search Committee, PO Box 127, Madison, NJ 07940.

Director, Covenant Discipleship, General Board of Discipleship (GBOD), UMC. Provides basic theological leadership and field service for Covenant Discipleship groups in the UMC. Requires masters, more than four years experience. Contact the Office of Human Resources, GBOD, PO Box 840, Nashville, TN 37202.

Assistant Editor, *alive now!*, GBOD, UMC. Assists editor in development, design and production of magazine; reads, edits copy for other publications. Apply Office of Human Resources, GBOD (see above).

Editor, United Methodist Publishing House. Plans periodicals for UMC education leaders and teachers; participates in curriculum planning and ecumenical committees; plans content, selects writers, edits copy for regularly scheduled publications. Requires graduate studies or equivalent in Christian education, local church or annual conference experience in Christian education. Salary: \$22,692. Apply UM Publishing House, 201 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, TN 37202.

Faculty Position, Christian Education, Saint Paul School of Theology. Seeking individual with doctorate in Christian education for potentially tenure-track position; experience in local church Christian education essential. "All nominations will be given consideration, but all other things being equal, preference will be given to ethnic persons." Write E. Dale Dunlap, Academic Dean, Saint Paul School of Theology, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO 64127. (816) 483-9600.

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

Associate Program Director for Evangelism and Spiritual Formation, Iowa Conference, UMC. Contact Jo Campney, 1711 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309. Deadline: Nov. 15.

Associate Program Director, Central Pennsylvania Conference, UMC. Major responsibility in Christian education. Deadline: Dec. 15. Write Central PA Conf., 900 S. Arlington Ave., Rm. 112, Harrisburg, PA 17109.

Full-time Director of Camps and Conferences, Eastern Pennsylvania Conference, UMC. Write Council Director, PO Box 820, Valley Forge, PA 19482.

Staff Position, West Virginia Conference Council on Ministries, UMC. Working with annual conference health and welfare ministries. Salary negotiable. Deadline: Nov. 1. Contact Dr. E. Wendell Eskew, Council Director, PO Box 2313, The United Methodist Center, Charleston, WV 25328.

Treasurer/Director of Administrative Services, California-Nevada Annual Conference, UMC. Deadline: Dec. 15. Contact Search Committee, CFA, California-Nevada Annual Conference, PO Box 467, San Francisco, CA 94101.

Executive Director, Southeast Women's Employment Coalition. Regionwide advocacy and education organization serving low-income women in the south. Responsible for overall program direction, fund-raising, staff coordination. Must have two years experience. Salary: \$25,000 plus. Send resume, cover letter explaining interest in job, separate statement identifying three problems anticipated and how to resolve. Write: Recruitment Committee, SWEC, 382 Longview Dr., Lexington, KY 40503.

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

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

Education and Music Position Openings. For a list of church position openings, write the Division of Diaconal Ministry, BHEM, UMC, PO Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 340-7375.



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