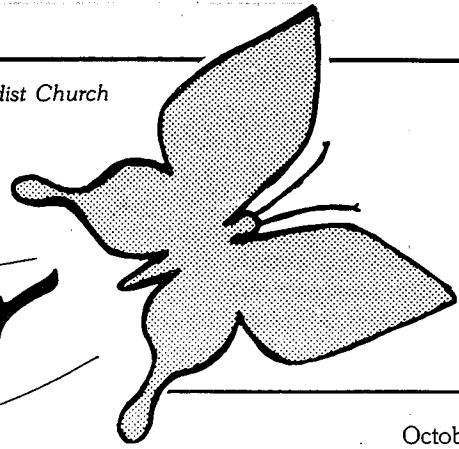


The Flyer



Vol. X, No. 2

October 1989

Annual conference CSRWs report significant developments

As the decade of the 1980s draws to a close, Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women (AC/CSRW) are making their voices heard on issues that affect the quality of life for all persons—male and female—of all colors and all classes: child care, domestic violence, sexual harassment, abortion. That's the report from 30 of 73 annual conferences across the country.

AC/CSRWs are recognizing outstanding individuals and the fruits of their labors through awards for those women and men who support the equality of all persons. (See related story: AC awards honor bridge builders and others.)

And annual conferences are celebrating the accomplishments and lifting up the concerns of women in the pews and the pulpits. Breakfasts, luncheons, banquets, displays, demonstrations—in a myriad of ways women and men continue to unite their voices in inclusive songs and progressive statements. (See related story: Special events, presentations dramatize issues.)

Let's turn to highlights of the stories shared by representative AC/CSRWs.

Child care

While child care itself is hardly a new issue, it continues to pose challenges for parents who wish to participate in church activities, especially on the conference level in locations without the familiar resources of home and the local church. As the church has moved toward involving *all* persons at *all* levels of the organization, child care has become a greater challenge, particularly for groups such as single parents and clergy couples.

During the past year, **New Hampshire** CSRW has instituted child care at all conference events: on-site care at all daytime meetings and reimbursement for care enabling parents to attend evening meetings.

This summer **North Indiana** CSRW submitted a petition that passed to provide for continuous child care from one half hour before the opening session each morning to one half hour after the close of the last session each night, starting with annual conference 1990. The purpose is "to encourage the fullest participation in all sessions and

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Rosalie Anderson, left, chair of CORR, confers with seminar leaders Geneva Dalton, center, and Nancy Grissom Self, right.

Nebraska AC hosts racism/sexism workshop

The Nebraska Annual Conference Commissions on the Status and Role of Women and on Religion and Race hosted a workshop on racism and sexism on February 11 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Lincoln, NE. More than 100 participated from conference boards and agencies.

Following introductory comments by resource persons Nancy Grissom Self, general secretariat, and Geneva Dalton, former general secretariat, participants shared in groups of three and then combined into groups of six for in-depth discussions of their own experiences with racism and sexism.

Evaluation responses indicated that individuals broadened and deepened their under-

standing of discrimination. One respondent commented on a feeling shared by many others—that the most helpful component of the event was the "opportunity to have serious discussion with persons of color."

Another respondent voiced the enlightenment from the small group discussion in which ethnic persons indicated their wish "not to be forced into our mold."

During lunch, the group had additional time for one-on-one sharing, which led to the conclusion of the workshop.

As one participant summed it up, "The workshop made me go back in my own history and think!"



Workshop participants share their insights into institutional racism and sexism.

Special events, presentations dramatize issues

Among the highlights of annual conference for many AC/CSRWs are the special events planned to emphasize the historic and current issues facing women. Three dramatic events lead the report on special programs sponsored during annual conference.

Central Illinois CSRW offered a special presentation at a banquet and coffee house. Shirlene Holmes portrayed Sojourner Truth, a slave who became an abolitionist, suffragist, and social reformer of the mid-1800s.

Another dramatization, this one sponsored by **Desert Southwest** CSRW, occurred during the commission's report to annual conference. In the midst of the report by Anna Rudner, AC/CSRW chair, Frances Willard, portrayed by Tanya Griffith, rushed in to tell her story about having been elected 100 years ago by her conference to be a General Conference delegate, yet being refused a seat!

"Man-in-the-Pulpit Sunday" entertained the audience at **Southern Illinois**. This humorous dramatization, written by Normajeane Wagner, AC/CSRW chair, proposed a role reversal.

Linda Thomas, GCSRW president, served as guest speaker for the **New York** CSRW's pre-conference evening program. The evening also included small group discussions on these themes:

- Can we dance Sarah's Circle as we climb Jacob's ladder?
- Well, we know "mankind" means everyone!
- It's appointment time!
- The feminization of the church — ruffles on everything?

Breakfasts, lunches

Sharing a meal at conference — sometimes to honor all women at annual conference, sometimes to honor particular groups, such as clergywomen or newly ordained women — has become a tradition among many AC/CSRWs.

Kansas East held its fifth annual conference Gathering of Women, which has grown from 23 to 140 participants. The theme this year was rural women. The highlights of the program were Joanne Schideler and Eugenia Swart, who shared their faith journey and the impact of the rural situation on their lives.

Louise Johns served as featured speaker at the **Alabama-West Florida** breakfast.

The **Rocky Mountain** CSRW luncheon keynote speaker was Cynthia A. Kent, secretariat, Native Ministries, General Board of Global Ministries.

At the **Florida** annual conference, CSRW sponsored Brown Bag Encounters at lunch each day. The topics and speakers included the following:

- "AIDS — a caregivers view" by Lisa Kalaf, director of clinical services, The Counseling Services Center
 - "CSRW — the new quadrennium" by Pam Cahoon, member of GCSRW
 - "Third World Women through the Eyes of a First World Woman" by Trudy Corry Rankin, Integrated Health Services, Counseling/Consulting
 - "Called to Service" by Jody Parks Moxley, lay leader, Florida AC
- Joetta Rinehart, GCSRW vice president,

was invited as an on-site observer to monitor the participation of women in the conference.

Oklahoma CSRW celebrated their tenth annual breakfast with inclusive songs, a brief program, and fellowship.

The luncheon meeting sponsored by **Detroit** CSRW featured a presentation on pornography from a feminist point of view.

Louisiana hosted a luncheon program on the "Mission and Ministry: United Methodist Church," a video presentation developed by Nancy Grissom Self. (The diagram developed in the presentation is presented and discussed on pages 5-8.)

Western New York held a luncheon honoring all women being ordained, while **New York** sponsored a breakfast with the Women's Caucus and women in ministry.

Among the AC/CSRWs sharing a meal with clergywomen were **Western North Carolina**, **Eastern Pennsylvania**, and **West Virginia**, whose banquet also included clergy couples.

The **Troy** AC/CSRW invited clergywomen to gather for dinner, worship and program on the theme "Journey to Wholeness." Featured speakers were retired Bishop Leontine Kelly; Alberta Sheldon, oldest woman ordained elder; and Marcheta Townsend, first woman D.S. in conference, named in 1989 — all of whom told the stories of their personal journeys.

Displays at AC

One visible means of telling the CSRW story is through booths and displays set up at annual conference meetings. This year

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AC awards honor bridge builders and others

AC/CSRWs are beginning new traditions by recognizing the accomplishments of those who have made progress in building bridges across gender and race issues.

California-Pacific CSRW began the tradition last year by bestowing the Barrier Breaker Award to Nancy Grissom Self, general secretariat of GCSRW. This year's award was presented to Alice Yun Chai, associate professor of the Women's Studies Program, University of Hawaii, Manoa.

Northern Illinois CSRW presented its Marjorie Matthews Award to Haeran Kim, associate pastor, Wesley UMC, Aurora, IL, and to Rose Arroyo, lay member of Humboldt Park UMC, Chicago. Kiyoko Kasai Fujii, general secretariat member, was a recipient in 1988.

North Alabama CSRW presented its first Barrier Breaker of the Year award to Louise Branscomb, who was a member of GCSRW 1973-1980. In the future, the award will be known as the Louise Branscomb Award.

Virginia CSRW established and presented the first Bridge Builder of the Year Award to Leontine Kelly, retired bishop, who was the conference preacher. And **South Carolina** CSRW is co-sponsoring

with the Commission on Religion and Race the Barbara Boultinghouse Memorial Bridge Builder Award to be presented for the first time in 1990.

Two other bishops received special awards from AC/CSRWs: **North Alabama** presented a special award to Bishop J.

Lloyd Knox for fostering the use of inclusive language. **Texas** presented a special award to Bishop Ben Oliphint in appreciation of "your pioneering style of leadership in the area of inclusive language and your commitment to full partnership of women and men in the Church of Jesus Christ."



Bishop Knox, left, assists Ethel Simmons, right, to present Barrier Breaker of the Year Award from North Alabama AC/CSRW to Dr. Louise Branscomb.

California-Pacific spread their message everywhere a participant strolled by distributing buttons, stickers, and bright yellow tote bags carrying the words: "We're All in This Together!" Their display continued the theme with a variety of resources: new resource packet, AC/CSRW brochure, GCSRW brochure, various articles and single-page resources on local chairperson responsibilities, and a banner, "We're All in This Together."

Yellow balloons with butterflies called attention to the **Western North Carolina** booth with issues of The Flyer and brochures "GCSRW United Methodist" and "The World Is Our Parish."

North Georgia continued the motif with a large sign with the words COSROW and big black butterflies against a yellow background. Their handouts included a sheet with names for God, information about "Words That Hurt, Words That Heal," and a brochure on GCSRW.

The **Wisconsin** display featured the model of power equity, developed by Carol Pierce, a process consultant with New Dynamics Associates of Laconia, NH, and resources on sexual harassment and women in the work place. All conference participants received a bibliography of resources included in a packet of materials.

A 15-minute presentation by **Eastern Pennsylvania** included an historical overview of women in ministry, both lay and clergy.

The **New Hampshire** display included information on shelters for women and children affected by domestic violence, photos of the April 9 "Rally for Women's Lives" in Washington D.C., information on *Daughters of Sarah*, and information on the Evangelical Women's Caucus.

Virginia CSRW took a somewhat different approach with their display by offering free resources entitled "My Pastor Has a Family" and "What You Ought to Know About Systemic Stress," based on a survey made by AC/CSRW in 1988 of clergy families.

A dove highlighted the display theme "Churches in Solidarity with Women," which was sponsored by **Alabama-West Florida**.

Among the resources offered at the **Oklahoma** CSRW booth were Crisis Survey Results, "UM Women in Crisis" brochures, and "Survey on UM Opinion: Clergywomen."

New York and **Florida** used arts and crafts to draw visitors to their displays. The New York display carried a backdrop of "Images of the Family," designed by artist Addy Carlberg. The display also offered periodic showings of a videotape of Kay Weaver's song with women in history, "One Fine Day." The Florida booth featured handcrafts from Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

The **Kansas West** CSRW displayed postcards honoring women in history and offered a bibliography on women's issues, a brochure on a workshop on Family Rules

and Roles, and a booklet on inclusive language from the Lutheran Church.

The **Central Illinois** display carried through the conference theme of evangelism, emphasizing the church reaching out to marginalized women, such as imprisoned, poor, single mothers, ethnic women, divorced, abused, aged, and youth.

Amid a backdrop of photos of women in ministry, the **Troy AC/CSRW** booth featured "Journey to Wholeness," a very comprehensive training manual for local church work areas on the status and role of women, developed by the conference CSRW.

Words for people of faith

Throughout all of these legislative actions, celebrations, and awards, AC/CSRWs recognize that their work is commissioned in the Bible. As Dulce E. Proud, California-Pacific AC/CSRW chair, said in her report to annual conference:

"In the beginning God created human beings in the image of Godself, male and female God created them." (Gen. 1:27) "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:28) These words have been handed down through the ages, first in the form of the spoken word; then in the written. They are words that hold great meaning for people of faith. They are words of great

Continued on page 4

New GCSRW secretariat joins staff

In January, Cecelia Long was selected as general secretariat of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. She joins the other two members of the secretariat, Kiyoko Kasai Fujiu and Nancy Grisom Self.

Long came to the general secretariat after having served four years as director of programs and operations at St. Luke Community UMC in Dallas. She has held positions in management at Southwestern Bell Telephone and Texas Instruments, college administration at Bishop College, and social work with exceptional children.

"From what I see, all of us share the same needs, regardless of the social, ethnic, or regional make-up of our local churches."

Long holds a master of social work degree from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in German from Hollins College in Roanoke, VA, where she became the first Black graduate of the institution.

Commenting on why she wanted to join the commission, Long explained, "I have known for 20 years, since I was a student at Hollins, that I would someday work directly

for women. I saw then the subtle and not-so-subtle differences in treatment of men and women, and I later experienced discrimination in the corporate sector."

Working for the commission, says Long, "gives me an opportunity to find out where the women of the church are and to share my skills and insights."

She recognizes among UM women a wide range of awareness and concern for women's issues. "Like any spiritual journey, some individuals are just beginning their search, perhaps as the result of a critical experience that launches them on the path. Others are already actively seeking new paths to equality for all persons."

She continues, "I think local churches need to provide opportunities for women and men to talk about their hurts. It's much easier for us to share our joys, but it's risky to share hurts when we cannot always count on persons to offer support."

One of the most rewarding aspects of her job, Long points out, is traveling around the country hearing individual stories and visiting diverse congregations. "From what I see, all of us share the same needs, regardless of the social, ethnic, or regional make-up of our local churches."

"Moreover, I have found many men who are among the most supportive persons," Long comments. "That's not surprising when we realize that anything that affects women affects men, and vice versa. We must all work

together to address the challenges we face: child care, aging parent care, racial and sexual discrimination, and drugs."

Her vision for her ministry through the commission is one of openness for herself and the church. Emphasizes Long, "I want to excel at being open to persons and to be



Cecelia Long joins GCSRW as general secretariat.

more at ease as a lay person among clergy. Similarly, I want to help the church affirm that all persons are called, whether they are lay or clergy, to be the body of Christ. Therefore, we must work together in that spirit, without competition, to make the church a model of an accepting, enabling place for spiritual growth and service."

STATUS REPORT

Congress approves large increase for WIC program

More than 230,000 additional malnourished mothers and children in the U.S. will receive healthy foods and nutrition counseling next year as a result of July 27 congressional approval of an increase of \$118 million above current services funding to expand the special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

The funding increase is the largest for the WIC program in five years, and will allow most WIC clinics to increase their case loads by approximately five percent in 1990. More importantly, the funding will help reduce the number of low birth weight babies, infant deaths and hungry children in the U.S.

The WIC increase was finalized during a Senate floor vote on appropriations for 1990. The total budget approved for WIC in FY1990 will be \$2.126 billion, allowing the program to reach an estimated total of 4.1 million pregnant women, infants, and young children who are at nutritional risk. The House approved a similar amount for WIC on July 18, at which time many members of Congress made note of the importance of the increase.

—From *Bread for the World* news release, July 29, 1989

UMs speak out on abortion

United Methodists on both sides of the abortion issue have voiced strong opinions on what the July 3 Supreme Court decision means for women and for the church.

The Rev. Thom White Wolf Fassett, general secretary of the Board of Church and Society, said the ruling turned the clock back 20 years on a woman's right to choose whether or not to terminate a pregnancy. Ellen Kirby, an assistant general secretary in the Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, said allowing states to set their own laws "provokes a patchwork quilt . . . forcing the most vulnerable women to undergo the extra expense and hardship of travel in search of health care."

The Rev. James V. Heidinger II, executive of Good News, an evangelical caucus within United Methodism that has pushed for a stronger church position against abortion, hailed the decision as "clearly positive . . . for anti-abortion advocates." Steven Wissler, Ephrata, PA, director of an anti-abortion group, said the decision "will put more pressure" on the United Methodist Church to support women and minister to them "so they don't have to choose the abortion option, which is a death option."

—From *"Methodists Make News,"* July 7, 1989

Inclusive language in NRSV

The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of the Bible is expected to reach bookstores in September 1990, according to J. Martin Bailey, top communications officer of the National Council of Churches.

Thirty scholars have been working on the new translation since 1973, two years longer than Martin Luther worked on his German translation. Among the changes in the new translation is use of inclusive language to refer to humans when the ancient texts indicate both male and female participation. Bailey reports that masculine references to God have not been changed.

—For more details on changes, see *Circuit Rider*, June 1989.

No longer auxiliary: from the pew to the pulpit

Following the consecration of the Rev. Barbara Harris as the first woman bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion, more attention is being given to the impact of feminism in relation to the churches. The issue is no longer equality, says Margaret McManus of the Center for Women & Religion at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA, "The issue is transformation of our religious institutions."

Some of the facts:

- 84 Christian denominations ordain women; 82 do not. Those who do ordain include American Baptist, Episcopal, Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ and United Methodist.
- About 21,000 ordained women now serve as ministers in U.S. churches.
- Between 1977 and 1987, the number of women graduating with Master of Divinity degrees increased 224% to 1,496, while the number of men graduates rose only 5%.
- In 1987, women were 27% of all seminary students, while in 1972 they were only 11.2%.

FYI

Harvard Divinity School has inaugurated a women's studies doctoral concentration in Religion, Gender, and Culture. The first students begin attending this fall. This Ph.D. concentration, which provides a coherent structure for students who wish to develop expertise in religion, gender, and culture, is an outgrowth of the Divinity School's development of scholarship in women's studies in religion. Contact Margaret R. Miles, Chairperson, Department of Theology, The Divinity School, Harvard University, 45 Francis Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138.

Special Events

Continued from page 3

comfort for the oppressed peoples of God's creation. We have yet to fulfill the intent of these prophetic and powerful words. People, women and men, are still suffering from the evils of sexism, racism, ageism, and classism, and discrimination because of handicapping conditions.

During 1989, AC/CSRWs continue their work to combat the suffering caused by the evils of sexism.

- Many women studying for the ministry are 10 years older than their male colleagues — seeking second, more fulfilling careers; and seminary deans report that a good number are divorced.

—From *Women's Network News*, April/May 1989.

UMC lacks Black women DSs

A churchwide coalition of Black UM clergywomen has reminded UM bishops of the absence of Black women district superintendents. Two Black women in Africa have held the office, but none has been appointed to the 540 districts in the US and Puerto Rico. The UMC has about 200 Black clergywomen. (Forty-five White women and two Hispanic women now hold the post in the U.S.)

—From *Newscope*, April 14, 1989.

Seminaries funding trial year for students

This fall, each of the 13 theological schools related to the UMC is funding a trial year for one or two students who are considering careers as ordained ministers, thanks to a matching grant through the Lilly Foundation.

The Rev. James Oman, director of the project on behalf of the Association of UM Theological Schools, said the Lilly grant of \$350,000 and the seminaries' contribution of \$300,000 will fund a churchwide study of factors that encourage women and men to pursue ordination as UM clergy.

—From *"Methodists Make News,"* March 3, 1989.

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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:

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Joetta Rinehart, Vice-President
Winonah McGee, Secretary

General Secretariat:

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Nancy Grissom Self

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The Mission and Ministry of the United Methodist Church

For the past several years, secretariat member Nancy Grissom Self has presented the chart of the Mission and Ministry of the United Methodist Church to training events. The centerfold rendering of the chart is not copyrighted and may be duplicated for use within the UMC. A 30-minute videotape of this presentation will be available in early 1990.

(Text to accompany the chart of the Church see pages 6-7)

History

Whatever we understand the church to be—that is, the **Christian** church—it is those who gather under sign and symbol of the empty cross. We **gather** to be disciples, and to go out to serve a hungry and hurting world.

When the former Evangelical United Brethren (EUBs) and the former Methodists became the **United Methodist Church** in 1968, a Structure Study Commission was established to bring to the 1972 General Conference an organizational structure that would gather the best wisdom of both denominational traditions. They established four basic program components:

OUTREACH
NURTURE
VOCATION
ADVOCACY

Program Boards

Four general boards were created to develop appropriate programs. The **OUTREACH** functions were assigned to the **Board of Global Ministries**, where there are presently three divisions — World, National, and Women's Divisions. Several additional departments include United Methodist Committee on Relief, (UMCOR), Health and Welfare Ministries, Mission Education and Cultivation, and Mission Personnel Resources.

The **NURTURE** functions are focused in the **Board of Discipleship**. They include The Upper Room, Discipleship Resources, Evangelism, Worship, Stewardship, Ministry of the Laity, Ethnic Minority Local Church Concerns, Church School Publications, Christian Education, Congregational Life, National Youth Ministry Organization and United Methodist Men.

Nurture is for the sake of empowering the disciples to go out to serve the hungry and hurting world.

The **VOCATION** arm of the church is in the **Board of Higher Education and Ministry**. It includes Divisions of Ordained Ministry; Diaconal Ministry; Chaplaincy and Related Ministries, (including military and institutional chaplains); Higher Education, (including Black Colleges and campus ministry); Office of Loans and Scholarships to enable students to support their education. The church understands that all Christians are ministers by virtue of baptism. Some are set apart for various offices, but in reality **all** are called to ministry, whatever we do for a living.

The **ADVOCACY** functions center in the **Board of Church and Society** located in Washington, D.C., across the street from the Capitol. When the bell rings for a roll call vote in either chamber, members of the

Board of Church and Society staff can be in the gallery by the time Congress members themselves can be there. Generations ago, somebody had the vision and wisdom to locate a church advocacy presence at the doorstep of the public sector. More recently, when the United Nations located its headquarters in New York, a church center for the United Nations was constructed. There is presence and witness of the Gospel across the street from our national and international policy makers.

Issues developed by the Board of Church and Society include Peace and World Order, Social and Economic Justice, Environmental Justice and Survival, Human Welfare, Political and Human Rights, Ethnic Minority Local Church Concerns and Resources Management. Seminars on National and International Affairs are included as part of the Education and Interpretation Division.

Administrative Councils

The Structure Study Commission then provided two accountability structures which have **general administrative** oversight of the denominational structures—one programmatic and the other fiscal.

The **General Council on Ministries**, (GCOM) evaluates, coordinates, manages and carries out planning, research and futuring that have wider implications than a single agency alone. GCOM also assigns emerging issues to various agencies between sessions of General Conference. It is an **administrative** council on behalf of the programming aspects of the church and not a programming agency itself.

The **General Council on Finance and Administration** (GCFA) not only receives money, accounts for it and distributes it; it also monitors policies of affirmative action in hiring personnel in church agencies. It reviews agencies annually to determine their use of vendors and distributors who are equal opportunity employers, in order to broaden the impact of the church's witness for social justice.

Service Agencies

There are three structural components which are **service** in nature. **United Methodist Communications** (UMCom) is the agency which helps the church tell its story with expertise in **disseminating** the church's witness to the widest audience possible, through print, audiovisual media, public relations news service.

The **Board of Pensions** has as its task to receive contributions on behalf of each pastor and general church employee and to invest those funds in order that they can live in dignity in their retirement years.

The **Board of Publications** is the policy-making arm of the **United Methodist Publishing House** (UMPH). John Wesley held it to be critically important that both clergy and laity be educated. The UMPH works cooperatively with program agencies in publishing curriculum resources, magazines, etc.

Other Commissions

In 1972, when the new structure was first introduced, the **Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns**, the church's primary ecumenical agency, was incorporated in the Board of Global Ministries because it was seen as part of outreach. After eight years it became clear that Christian Unity has collaborative and cooperative work in all areas of the church's organization. In 1980 the General Conference made GCCUC a free standing Commission.

The **Commission on Archives and History** had predecessors in both former denominations. It continues as that agency which conserves, preserves, and holds for perpetuity our collective histories. They designate historic sites and document milestones along the journey. Every movement, whether secular or religious, comes to its identity through recovering, rehearsing and claiming its history.

The United Methodist Church has **PROGRAM** boards, **ADMINISTRATIVE** councils, and **SERVICE** agencies. Many ministries are enabled in and through the general agencies and conference structures.

Mission and Ministry Happens

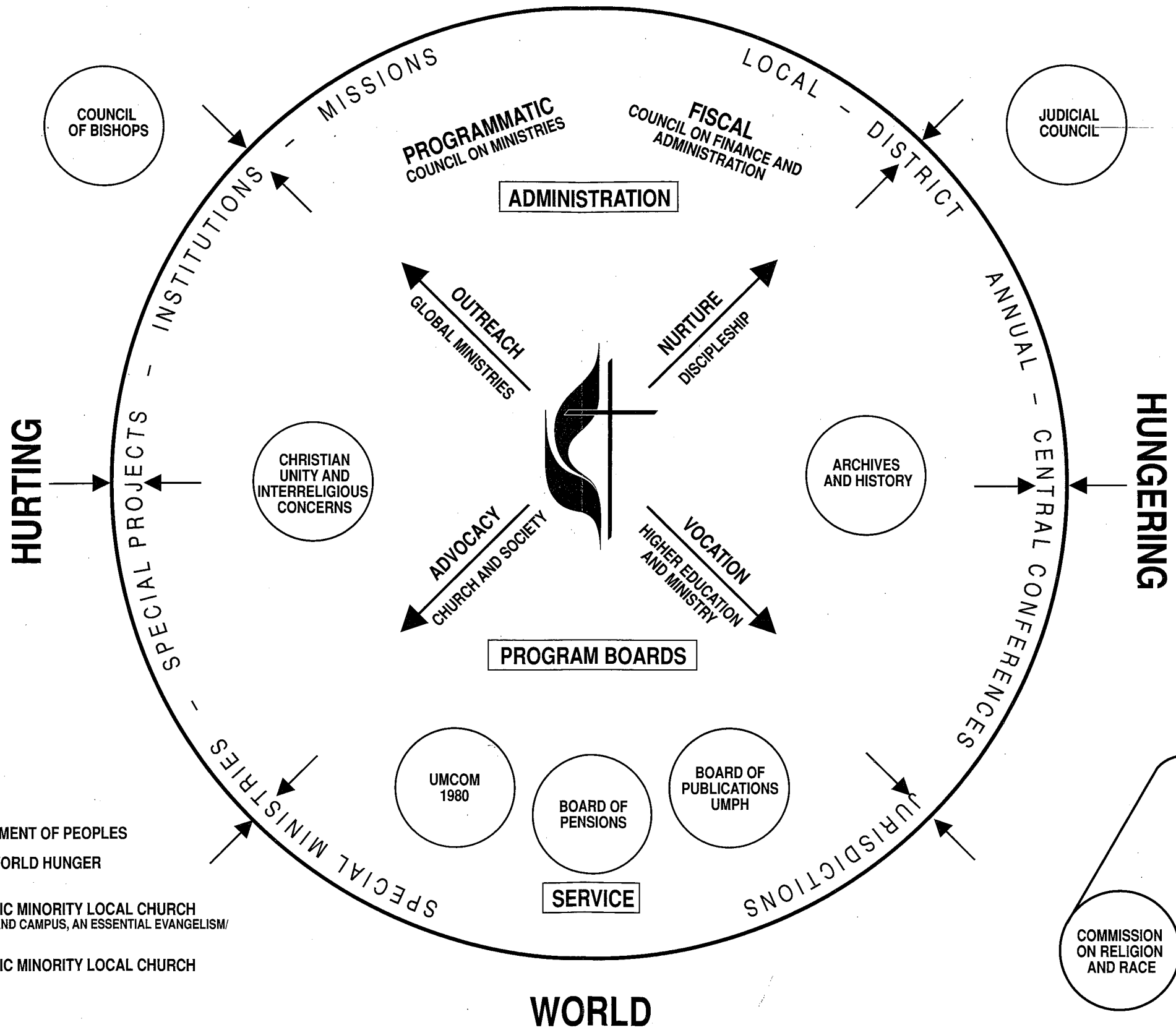
The ministry of the church is carried authentically and urgently in **local churches** throughout the country and around the world. In **districts**, local churches coalesce and converge on ministries in their geography to make a wider witness. In **annual conferences** and in central conferences (the international counterpart), the church is empowered by people's participation in the decision-making process. Ministry goes on in mission stations, special ministries, institutions, (e.g., children's homes, universities, hospitals), health and welfare services, special projects (e.g., urban, rural, town and country, church and community, campus ministry). All are manifestations of the ministry to a hungry and hurting world by those who are nurtured in the Gospel.

Council of Bishops

Two additional councils serve the church. The **Council of Bishops** has responsibility for general superintendency and for the temporal and spiritual life of the denomination. Elected for life by jurisdictions, each

Continued on page 8

GENERAL CONFERENCE



SPECIAL EMPHASES

- 1972 • BISHOPS CALL TO PEACE AND SELF DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLES
- 1976 • THE ETHNIC MINORITY LOCAL CHURCH • WORLD HUNGER • EVANGELISM
- 1980 • DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING THE ETHNIC MINORITY LOCAL CHURCH
• AFRICA/PEACE WITH JUSTICE/WORLD HUNGER/CHURCH AND CAMPUS, AN ESSENTIAL EVANGELISM/
LOCAL CHURCH EVANGELISM
- 1984 • DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING THE ETHNIC MINORITY LOCAL CHURCH
FOR WITNESS AND MISSION
- 1988 • THEME: CELEBRATE AND WITNESS

active bishop serves on one of the agencies in the structure (frequently in major leadership roles), in addition to presiding over one or more annual conferences. Every general agency has episcopal representation.

Judicial Council

The **Judicial Council** is often compared to the U.S. Supreme Court. The nine members interpret, in matters of dispute, what the **Book of Discipline** and the Constitution say. They provide definitive interpretation where there is ambiguity. If that definitive interpretation does not seem faithful to the Gospel, then it is in the power of those concerned to petition General Conference to revise the **Discipline** or the Constitution to make it more nearly faithful to the Gospel. John Wesley's tenet applies: "...We're going on to perfection."

General Conference

Every four years the General Conference reviews the whole structure to modify it legislatively in the **Discipline** and/or in the Constitution, so that it speaks more faithfully to the Gospel and to the times in which we live. Changes in the **Discipline** can be made by General Conference. Constitutional changes made by the General Conference must be ratified by Annual Conferences.

Any individual, annual conference, agency or other structure of the church may petition the General Conference. Most of the agenda of the General Conference is legislative in nature. However, there are times when special designated emphases are proposed to the General Conference for action.

Special Emphases

In 1972, at the time that the new structure was approved, the church affirmed a statement of conscience designated "The Bishops Call to Peace and Self-Development of Peoples."

In 1976, three Missional Priorities were authorized by the General Conference—the Ethnic Minority Local Church, World Hunger, and Evangelism. Those became the priorities for the quadrennium.

In 1980, the Ethnic Minority Local Church became the single missional priority. In addition to that priority, five special program emphases were approved: African church growth, peace with justice, world hunger, the church and campus—an essential evangelism and local church evangelism.

In 1984, in the bicentennial year, the General Conference singled out even more precisely one missional priority, Developing and Strengthening the Ethnic Minority Local Church for Witness and Mission.

More recently conferences and local churches have studied "In Defense of Creation," along with the pastoral letter from the Council of Bishops concerning nuclear crisis and a just peace.

The 1988 General Conference adopted a quadrennial theme: Celebrate and Witness: Celebrate God's Grace, Witness to Jesus Christ.

Advocacy Commissions

In 1968, the decision was made to eliminate the central jurisdiction (a racially-defined jurisdiction, established in the 1940s as a compromise in the reunion of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Methodist Protestant Church).

Religion and Race

The **General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR)** was established by the 1968 General Conference to mediate the integration of previously racially defined districts and conferences. It gradually assumed responsibility for empowering all racial ethnic persons, monitoring inclusiveness in the whole church, in affirmative action and other components of faithful witness. As an advocate GCORR sensitizes the church to inclusiveness and investigates when discrimination is identified.

Status and Role of Women

The Women's Division petitioned the 1968 Conference to establish a Study Commission on the Participation of Women in the Decision-making Channels of the United Methodist Church. The Study Commission was authorized but not funded until the 1970 special session of General Conference.

As the 1972 General Conference approached, when the structure for the new church would be debated, the Study Commission proposed another quadrennium for additional study to complete their work. Women across the church became impatient with a proposal for more study. A United Methodist Women's Caucus formed and with the support of the Women's Division, the Board of Church and Society and others in the church, the General Conference voted a quadrennial Commission on the Status and Role of Women to be:

ADVOCATE CATALYST MONITOR

It was assigned the task to **advocate** on behalf of all women in the church.

The GCSRW is a **catalyst** to encourage agencies and other structures of the church to be pro-active in their inclusiveness of women at all levels of decision-making, in program and policy. Then the task is to **monitor** compliance.

In 1976 the General Conference made the Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) a standing commission.

Corrective Lenses

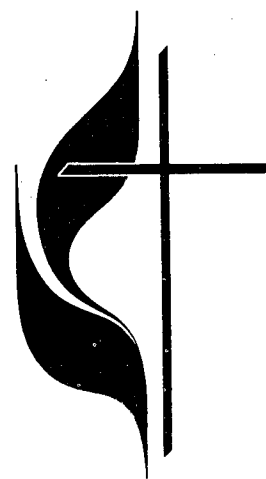
These two Commissions—Religion and Race and Status and Role of Women—are like a pair of corrective lenses on the vision of the church, addressing the myopia therein. Where the church fails to see God's inclusive rainbow in all its racial ethnic colors, the Commission on Religion and Race is authorized to go anywhere within the system to call for accountability.

Likewise, the Commission on the Status and Role of Women has the corrective lens to ensure that all the "shapes" of God's witnesses are included. These two Commissions are mandated to go to the Program Boards, to the Administrative or Executive Councils, to the General Conference, to any of the agencies, institutions or special programs of the denomination, and to the coordinating committees of the special emphases in order to call for accountability on behalf of the inclusiveness of their constituencies.

The GCORR and the GCSRW also monitor each other to make sure that in the issues of racial ethnic concerns women are included, and that where women's concerns are primary, racial ethnic women are included.

It is the hope of these Commissions that in some future time, when the vision is perfected, the glasses might be thrown away.

Until such time these two structures are authorized by the church to be diligent in pursuing their mandates so that all God's people are given opportunity to participate fully in the ministry and mission of the United Methodist Church to the hungry and hurting world.



Ovations

To **Deanna Armstrong**, who has been selected to work as part of the Conference Services and Communication Education team in the new United Methodist Communications field staff office in Phoenix, AZ, serving the Western Jurisdiction.

To **Ressie Bass**, vice president of the Women's Division of the Board of Global Ministries, who helped lead prayers against apartheid in South Africa in the June 17 march on the White House to protest U.S. policy. Bishop C. Dale White of New York was arrested there that same day.

To **Maxine Clark Beach**, who has been named executive director of the new Scarritt-Bennett Center.

To **Patricia Diane Brown**, former supervisor of a chaplaincy program in Allentown, PA, who has been named executive secretary for mission evangelism of the Board of Global Ministries.

To **M. Garlinda Burton**, director of the Nashville, TN, office of United Methodist News Service, who has received an "Outstanding Young Women in America" award.

To **Sara Collins**, director of music at Crescent Avenue UMC, Fort Wayne, IN, and **Linda Bradberry**, Augusta, GA, who were elected to two-year terms as officers of the 3,500-member Fellowship of United Methodists in Worship, Music and the Other Arts. Collins was elected president; Bradberry, secretary.

To **Jane Dearing**, editor of the *Arkansas United Methodist*, who won three first place awards in the 1989 Arkansas Communication Contest sponsored by Arkansas Press Women. She also won first place in the National Federation of Press Women's contest in the category "General Excellence for Special Interest Publications."

To 1989-92 officers and leaders of the National United Methodist Native American Center: **Deborah Doxtator**, president; **Betty Admussen**, treasurer; **Susan Padgett**, secretary; **Billie Nowabbi**, program committee chairperson; **Marceline Mahsetky Rogers**, associate director, youth.

To **JoAnn Eslinger**, staff member of the Board of Discipleship's Office of Minority Local Church Coordination, who has been named to the board's Section on Ministry of the Laity as director of congregational and community action ministry projects.

To **Millicent Charlene Feske**, Atlanta; **Carolyn Jo Pressler**, Lawrenceville, NJ; and **Amy Lorraine Wordelman**, Princeton, who received three of the five \$10,000 Dempster Graduate Fellowships awarded by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

To the **French Family Foundation**, who has endowed a fund named WATER: Women's Advocacy Through Educational Resourcing, a \$10,000 grant to Wisconsin Annual Conference.

To **Barbara Goldberg**, professor of Human Resources and Education at Alaska Pacific University, who was named one of the country's top teachers by the American Association for Higher Education.

To **Youtha Hardman-Cromwell**, Ph.D. student in educational administration at American University; **Ai Ra Kim**, Ph.D. student in women in religion at Drew University; **Tumani Matasa Nyajeka**, entering Ph.D. student in church history at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary/Northwestern University; **Rosetta Ross**, Ph.D. student in ethics at Emory University; and **Linda Thomas**, Ph.D. student in anthropology at American University, for receiving the new Women of Color Ph.D. Scholarships awarded by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Thomas is the current president of the GCSRW.

To **Susan Henry-Crowe**, a South Carolina Conference associate director, who has been elected council director, the first such appointment of a woman in that conference.

To **Carol Marie Herb**, General Board of Global Ministries RESPONSE magazine; **Barbara Dunlap-Berg**, UM Communications, three awards for posters or brochures; **Martha Pilcher**, UM Publishing House, videotape; and **Joanne Hill**, North Texas Conference, television and cable series, who received certificates of merit for their work from the Religious Public Relations Council.

To **Marianne E. Inman**, associate dean of Academic Affairs, who has been appointed state coordinator of the Alaska State Planning Committee of the American Council of Education's National Identification Program for the Advancement of Women in Higher Education Administration.

To **Louise Stowe Johns**, chaplain at Julia Tutwiler women's prison in Wetumpka, AL, and Red Eagle honor farm in Montgomery, who has been chosen as preacher on the 1990 UM series of the "Protestant Hour" radio program.

To **Sandra L. Kirkbride**, activity director, Pitman Manor/UM Homes of New Jersey, who was named Human Services Director of the Year by the United Methodist Association of Health and Welfare Ministries.

To **Lau Lai-Sze (Maria) and Cheung Mel-Chun (Jane)**, who are the first two women clergy of the Methodist Church of Hong Kong. Lau Lai-Sze serves at Epworth Village on Hong Kong Island; Cheung Mel-Chun serves at Sha Tin in the New Territories.

To **Jill Long (D-IN)**, a member of 27-member Etna UMC, who has been elected by the House of Representatives to fill the seat vacated when Rep. Dan Coats (R) was named to the Senate following the election of Vice President Dan Quayle.

To **Deborah Luther**, who received the Bessie Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund, a \$1,000 scholarship established in 1986 to honor the memory of the first woman ordained in the South Carolina Conference in 1956.

To **Cathie Lyons**, acting head of the General Board of Global Ministries' Health and Welfare Ministries Department, who has been elected associate general secretary.

To **Harriet McCabe**, chairperson of the Northern Illinois Conference Commission on Race and Religion, who has been presented the Don Atkinson Award by the Northern Illinois Chapter of the Methodist Federation for Social Action for her commitment to combating racism and her pursuit of affirmative action in the conference.

Continued on page 10



1989-92 National UM Native American Center officers, left to right: president Deborah Doxtator, vice president Bud Sahmaunt, secretary Susan Padgett, treasurer Betty Admussen.

Commission Talent Scout

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

Director of Support Systems and Spiritual Formation, Division of Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Responsibilities include aiding in the spiritual formation of UM clergy in parish settings and in appointments beyond the local church. Work for the concerns of UM ordained women and clergy couples in areas of theological education, enlistment, appointment, deployment and advocacy. Apply by November 1 to Donald H. Treese, Associate General Secretary, Division of Ordained Ministry, GBHEM, P.O. Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202-0871. (615) 340-7388.

Directors of Spiritual Formation, Studies, and Food Service (three positions). Scarritt-Bennett Center, Nashville. Contact Maxine Clarke Beach, 1008 19th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212. (615) 340-7500.

Special Assistant to the President for Affirmative Action/Employee Relations, UM Publishing House. Consults with UMPH management and employees to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices. Identifies resource needs of ethnic groups and advocates development of appropriate resources. Contact UM Publishing House, Employment Office, 201 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, TN 37212. (615) 749-6294.

Assistant Editor, UM Publishing House. Assists in the overall editorial preparation of professional books. Contact UM Publishing House, Employment Office, 201 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, TN 37212. (615) 749-6294.

Campus Pastor of Wesley Foundation, University of Oregon. Full time position for ordained UM clergy. Apply by November 1 to Search Committee, 440 Maxwell Road, Eugene, OR 97404. (503) 689-3725.

General Controller, General Board of Global Ministries, UMC. Coordinates the financial reporting of the Board/Divisions/Departments. Coordinates the financial management team, budgets, forecasts, and financial policies and procedures. Must be a UMC member. Send application letter and resume to Eileen Shapiro, Human Resources Department, GBGM, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 1476, New York, NY 10115. (212) 870-3600.

Director/Mission Resource Center, General Board of Global Ministries, UMC. Initiates, develops and implements fund raising activities for the Mission Resource Center; focuses on the overall development and direction for preparation and training of personnel for the UMC mission program; cooperates in initiating preparation and training events for candidates entering mission service. Send application letter and resume to Eileen Shapiro (see above).

Associate Director/Mission Resource Center, General Board of Global Ministries, UMC. Assists in overall development and direction for preparation and training of personnel for the mission program of the UMC. Send application letter and resume to Eileen Shapiro (see above).

Application Programmer, General Board of Global Ministries, UMC. Cooperates with management in maintaining user friendly data processing techniques and methods to assist board activities. Under general supervision designs and/or maintains application software, both on-line and batch. Send application letter and resume to Eileen Shapiro (see above).

Area Executive Secretary (Southern Asia), General Board of Global Ministries, UMC. Major responsibility is to administer and coordinate the World Division's program in relation to Southern Asia. Send application letter and resume to Eileen Shapiro (see above).

American Friends Service Committee. For a listing of current job openings in the U.S. and abroad, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to AFSC Personnel Office, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. (215)241-7105.

UMC Positions. For a monthly listing of positions available in the UMC, contact the Division of Diaconal Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, P.O. Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202. (615) 340-7375.

Ovations *Continued from page 9*

To **Don Mendenhall**, GCSRW member and former director of stewardship and lay ministries in the Iowa Conference, who has been named administrative assistant to Bishop Rueben P. Job of the Iowa Area. Mendenhall is the first layperson ever named to such a position.

To **Eleanor Scott Myers**, who was elected dean, and to **Kris Culp**, who was chosen assistant professor of theology, at St. Paul School of Theology, Kansas City, MO.

To **Christina Nuckols**, who won the 1989-90 Stoodly-West Fellowship for graduate study in journalism, a \$6,000 award by United Methodist Communications.

To **Sandra Rodgers**, student at United Theological Seminary, who received the Western New York Bishop's Clergywomen's Scholarship Fund.

To Boston University's **Anna Howard Shaw Center** for dedicating a window in honor of Anna Howard Shaw, generally considered the first woman ordained in the Methodist tradition.

To **Carolyn Simms**, who has been named the conference coordinator of communications in Eastern Pennsylvania.

To **Chiquita G. Smith**, staff executive of the Women's Division, Board of Global Ministries, who has been named president of the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights, an interfaith group headquartered in Washington, D. C.

To **Letitia L. Smith**, pastor of Brown Memorial United Methodist Church, Syracuse, NY, who has been awarded the \$5,000 1989-90 Esther Edwards Graduate Scholarship.

To Women's Division staffers **Joyce Sohl**, **Elaine Gasser**, and **Consuelo Urquiza**, along with Bishop Melvin G. Talbert (San Francisco), who have been named to a transition team to oversee restructuring of the National Council of Churches.

To **Linda Tafolla**, a "Catch the Spirit" field producer, who won awards for three video pieces, one of them entitled "Native American Women's Consultation," in the San Antonio Women in Communications competition. The consultation was sponsored by GCSRW in 1987.

To **Kathy Trotter**, a member of First UMC, Marion, IN, who was elected chair of the National UM Camping Committee.

To **Journn Wendel**, who received the second largest number of votes for bishop of Northern European Central Conference, and to **Kaijka Riikka Vaxby**, district superintendent in Finland, who, as wife of the new bishop Hans Vaxby, participated in the laying-on of hands at the bishop's induction.

To **Rebecca Youngblood**, who has been named chairperson of the Division of Ordained Ministry, Board of Higher Education and Ministry. She is the second clergywoman to chair the division.

To **Sue Zabel**, director of continuing education and admissions for United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, New Brighton, MN, who has received a \$60,000 fellowship from the Bush Foundation aimed at developing high-level leadership in a variety of fields.

activities of the Annual Conference." The petition further stated that each board, commission, and agency of the conference provide for child care "during each of its meetings either with such service at its meetings or payment for such service in the home community, whichever is most appropriate for its members and its meetings." It also calls for districts and local churches to meet child care needs.

Domestic violence

Our collective consciousness as a country is being raised on the issue of domestic violence and its threat to persons of all colors, classes, and ages. In response to that threat, a number of AC/CSRWs have collected and disseminated information to educate church members on the problem and on the services available in their areas.

Going a step further, the **Minnesota CSRW**, at one of its meetings this year, supported a petition that originated from the Minnesota Coalition for Battered Women. The petition urges state legislators "to address this problem by ensuring that a minimum level of services exist for battered women and their children in every county in Minnesota." As the petition emphasizes, "When women and children are running for their lives, they should have somewhere to go."

Moreover, this group along with the Board of Church and Society, is planning a 1990 workshop on domestic violence.

"When women and children are running for their lives, they should have somewhere to go."

Sexual and gender harassment

The church has only just begun to address the need for protecting its members and employees against sexual and gender harassment. As businesses and other organizations have already begun, annual conferences are developing policies for handling harassment as it occurs.

One of the leaders on this issue is the **Minnesota CSRW** whose document was adopted by their conference in June 1988. Acknowledging that leadership, the **Wisconsin CSRW** presented its policy this year and reported that it was accepted by the annual conference without a dissenting vote.

The Wisconsin sexual and gender harassment policy includes a theological statement, definitions of sexual and gender harassment, procedures for approaching the harasser and for further action when necessary, and additional recommendations for implementation of the policy.

Similarly, **Central Illinois** also presented a policy that was adopted this year at annual conference: what is sexual harassment; why be concerned about it; what to do if it is occurring; can reconciliation be achieved; and when all else fails.

Abortion

The question of a woman's right to reproductive choice continues to cause heated debate within the UMC and in other religious and secular gatherings. One example of an AC/CSRW at work on this issue is **Detroit**, where AC/CSRW action resulted in refined legislation to further address a pro-choice stance.

A conference resolution passed which authorized a task force to study "the circumstances and health issues that cause women to choose abortion and to explore programs that the church could institute or support which would give these women reason to choose life for the fetus while maintaining the stability and integrity of those touched by the situation."

The Detroit CSRW added language that would provide equal support to women whether they choose to continue or to end a pregnancy: "That the task force develop a plan to promote and support these programs to provide spiritual, medical, financial and emotional support before and afterwards for those who choose to bring forth this life and to provide spiritual, medical, financial and emotional support for those who choose abortion."

Spouse's right to pension

What happens to the pension of clergy when that person has divorced and remarried? That is a question raised by **Rocky Mountain AC/CSRW**. To find an answer, the group has requested that this issue be placed on the agenda of the next General Commission meeting and that dialogue be established with the Board of Pensions for future development.

Social Security has set a precedent by saying that a spouse is legally entitled to a percentage of a pension with over 10 years of marriage.

Interim Editor Named for Flyer

In July, the General Secretariat selected **Bonny Stalnaker Roth** as interim editor for *The Flyer*. The Coordinating Committee of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women affirmed Roth's selection at their July meeting in San Bruno, CA. As interim editor, Roth has edited and managed the production of the current issue and will consider an open-ended commitment pending GCSRW's development of a job description.

Roth brings to her position a life-long involvement in the United Methodist Church and strong professional qualifications. An active leader in First United Methodist Church, Evanston, IL, she began church leadership experience in her youth fellowship group in Malvern, AR, and served on the Little Rock Conference UMY Council.

Roth holds a Ph.D. in Communication and Rhetoric from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. A part-time faculty member of Northwestern University, she manages her own Evanston-based communication consulting firm, B. S. Roth Communication, specializing in marketing communication, communication training, and SAT/ACT exam preparation.

According to Roth, "This position represents more than a new client for me—it's an opportunity to use my professional skills to support the work of God's people."



North Central New York participants at Annual Conference received buttons bearing this graphic design, courtesy of AC/CSRW.

RESOURCES

Women's Data Base—Base de Datos Mujer. This bilingual English-Spanish publication from Isis International is being published twice a year. It carries information contained in the Isis International data base on the theme of women, categorized according to thematic subject and type of material. Subscriptions are US \$30.00 a year. Send checks in dollars to Isis International, Casilla 2067, Correo Central 2067, Santiago, Chile.

Daughters of Sarah. A bimonthly magazine by Christian women calling for justice, mutuality, and reconciliation within the church and the world. For subscription (\$18/year), contact Daughters of Sarah, P.O. Box 411179, Chicago, IL 60641.

Media & Values. A quarterly magazine whose purpose is to challenge and enable both media consumers and media industries to raise questions about and to claim greater responsibility for the media environment. Spring 1989 issue focuses on the theme "The Birds, the Bees and Broadcasting: What the Media Teaches Our Kids About Sex." For subscription (\$14/year) or single issue copy (\$4), contact Media & Values, 1962 South Shenandoah, Los Angeles, CA 90034.

Water Words. Quarterly resource for creative worship and inclusive liturgy. Written by Larry Peacock, co-pastor of Malibu United Methodist Church, serving with his wife Anne Broyles. Sample mailing (\$2) and subscription (\$8/year) available from Water Words, 6164 Paseo Canyon, Malibu, CA 90265.

Journey to Wholeness. Training manual for local work areas prepared by the Troy Conference CSRW. Contact Loise George, 32 Benedict St., Castleton-on-Hudson, NY 12033. (518) 732-2128. Cost is \$3.00.

A Male/Female Continuum: Paths to Collegueship. Book, video, study guide, and wall chart by Carol Pierce and Bill Page. Focus is on women's and men's journeys away from role stereotyping, the transition while learning new ways to relate, and the discovery of collegueship. Book, \$9.95 (discount for 10 or more copies); wall chart, \$95.00; 107-minute VHS video (including 2 books, 2 study guides, and wall chart), \$595.00 to purchase, \$95.00 to rent for four days. Contact New Dynamics Publications, 21 Shore Drive, Laconia, NH 03246.

CALENDAR

Oct. 23-27 **Conference on Black Theology and the Black Church: A Continuing Conversation.** Ecumenical conference, both clergy and laity, sponsored by Auburn, General, New York, and Union Theological Seminaries in cooperation with The Riverside Church. Contact Auburn Theological Seminary, 3041 Broadway, New York, NY 10027. (212) 662-4315.

Oct. 27-29 **Women/Power/Politics.** A weekend for women of faith from various ethnic groups, races and classes to present their agendas for changing oppressive structures. Contact Grailville, 932 O'Bannonville Rd., Loveland OH 45140. (513) 683-2340.

Oct. 28 **Women and Spirituality: Reflection, Renewal, Response.** Participants will explore women and spirituality in the context of global interdependence, justice, peace. Sponsored by NNJ AC. Contact Sylvia Thele, 135 Walnut Street, Roselle Park, NJ 07204. (201) 245-5765.

Nov. 3-4 **Re-imagining Redemption.** A symposium in which six leading women theologians and artists will each address the issue

Does your state have a directory? Women's Resource Directory, published by the Michigan Women's Commission. Identifies organizations, programs, and services for women in Michigan. The 226-page directory lists government offices, family services, professional associations, national organizations with local chapters, college and university women's centers and programs, and victim assistance agencies. Most entries include the organization's name, address, telephone number, and purpose. The directory could be a model for women's commissions in other states. Available free from the Michigan Women's Commission, 611 West Ottawa St., P.O. Box 30026, Lansing, MI 48909.

of re-imagining redemption from the perspective of women's experience. For more information, contact Anna Howard Shaw Center, Box 81, Boston University School of Theology, 745 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215. (617) 353-3075.

Dec. 1-3 **Finding Our Theological Voices: Black/White Perspective.** Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza and Katie Geneva Cannon will explore black and white perspectives on feminist theology, spirituality and ethics. Contact Grailville, 932 O'Bannonville Rd., Loveland OH 45140. (513) 683-2340.

April 20-21 **Troubling the Waters: Risking Contradictions of Race, Sex and Class.** Leaders: Katie Cannon, Carter Hayward, Joan Martin, Sun Ai Park and Letty Russell. Co-sponsored with the Women's Theological Center of Boston. Contact Auburn Theological Seminary (see above).

June 4-8 **Sexuality and the Church: Towards a Theological and Ethical Reconstruction.** Leaders: Beverly Harrison and James Nelson. Contact Auburn Theological Seminary (see above).



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