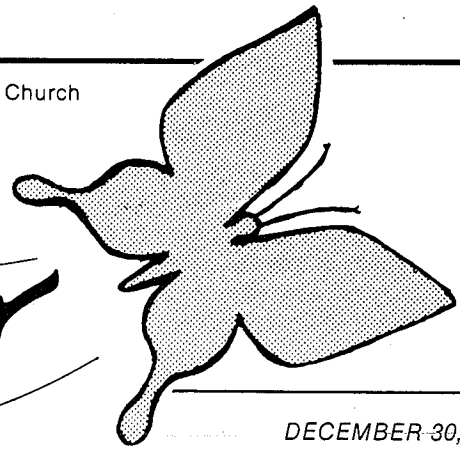


# The Flyer



Volume 1, No. 10

DECEMBER 30, 1979

## GCSRW TO CONSIDER SEXISM—RACISM, NATIVE AMERICANS

Black Historian Lerone Bennett, speaking recently on the plight of Afro-Americans or Black-Americans, talked of being "stretched on the rack of the hypen."

Extending that analogy to race and sex, members of the General Conference on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW) will give special emphasis to the linkage of racism and sexism at the last meeting of the quadrennium, Feb. 13-17, 1980 in Madison, WI. Native Americans will be a particular focus within the emphasis.

"There is growing recognition of the relationship between racism and sexism," said GCSRW President Carolyn Oehler. "We can't deal with them separately. Racial/ethnic minority women can't be one or the other (racial/ethnic or women)—they're both."



Six members of the seven-member planning committee for the GCSRW meeting in February on racism, sexism and Native Americans. Members are (front row, 1. to r.) Lydia M. Saenz, Kiyoko Kasai Fujiu, and Velma Yemoto. (Back row) Randy Rutland, Euba Harris-Winton, and Gladys Church. (Photo by seventh committee member Carolyn R. Oehler).

Not enough attention has been paid to the linkage, Oehler said, and not much printed material exists on the subject.

"Some say the two are not linked. But we think racism and sexism have common roots and common effects, although they're not identical. It is possible to be fighting racism and still be sexist, and vice versa. And the issues are complex. Those fighting racism can still be racist; those fighting sexism can still be sexist.

"Our emphasis is in effect a confession of the linkage and a recognition of the complexity of the issues," Oehler said.

Resources for the Commission's sessions on consciousness-raising and strategizing with regard to Native Americans will be provided by Tom Fassett and Billie Nowabbi. The two Native Americans will describe where Native Americans are in relation to the church and some of the history of Native Americans in the United States and the United Methodist Church.

The Native American emphasis is an outgrowth of the difficulties the Commission has had in getting Native American participation on the Commission, Oehler said. Among the four racial/ethnic minority groups in the church (Black, Asian-American, Hispanic and Native American), the Native Americans have been the least visible on the Commission, she said.

"Clearly, most for Native Americans, the status and role of women are not priority issues," she said. "We need to understand how we can relate to Native Americans, particularly women, in ways we haven't."

Four or five racial/ethnic minority Commission members will share their own understandings of the linkage between race and sex at the February meeting. The whole Commission will then be guided in small group discussion to focus on their own feelings and experiences with the two. Consultant Lydia Savasten will direct group discussion on power and trust.

The design for the emphasis was discussed at the Commission's Steering Committee meeting Nov. 16-18 in Madison, WI. The committee also reviewed legislation to determine petitions which might be developed for General Conference. Petitions, which must be approved at the February Commission meeting, to meet the March 1 deadline, will deal particularly with clergy families and in-

## NATIONAL WOMEN'S CAUCUS REBORN

After more than three years of dormancy, a National Women's Caucus is being reborn, the acting convener of the North Central Jurisdiction Women's Caucus announced.

"A growing conservatism in the country and in the church, along with a tendency to think we've already arrived" led to revival of the caucus, said Peggy L.T. Garrison. "We need to refocus women's issues. While others may argue, I don't think we are really in any state of equality."

As evidence of the "we've already arrived" feeling, Garrison cited a petition to General Conference from the West Ohio Conference calling for disbanding of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW). The petition cites the gains made by the (not yet ratified) Equal Rights Amendment.

Support for the GCSRW is one of the three purposes of the newly-formed caucus. Impacting General Conference

(cont. on page 7)

(cont. on page 7)

## OPTIONS FOR ACTION



*(From the minutes of the Annual Conference Commissions)*

- ♀ **CENTRAL ILLINOIS**—Developed a monitoring instrument to determine the participation of women in leadership roles at Annual Conference and the presence of inclusive language.
- ♀ **DETROIT**—CSRW concerns discussed with the Bishop met with sympathetic concern; the Bishop promised to write a letter to the chair of the Committee on Ministerial Relations of the Board of Ordained Ministry regarding female clergy and seminarians being propositioned by male clergy. In response to the Bishop's request, COSROW will write a paper on clergy ex-spouses. High priority was given by the Bishop to recruiting clergywomen from other conferences for higher level appointments in the Detroit Conference.
- ♀ **NORTH ALABAMA**—Sponsored informal rap sessions between female students at Birmingham-Southern College and women currently serving as pastors. District Superintendents were asked to send the Commission a list of certified women lay speakers in their districts; the list will be sent to the ADVOCATE.
- ♀ **NORTH GEORGIA**—Sponsored a "Day on Women's Concerns," with the focus on "What can I do?". Nancy Hardesty opened day speaking on "The Biblical Foundation for Equality of Women". A second "Day" will be held in 1980. The Committee continues to distribute "Women in Ministry," a study designed to help a congregation prepare for the appointment of its first clergywoman.
- ♀ **SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY**—CSRW prints a regular yellow flyer entitled "Woman Anew," using as its logo a butterfly inside a woman's symbol. Reports on commission activities, ovations, calendar. Women of the local UM churches of the annual conference receive the newsletter.
- ♀ **WESTERN-NORTH CAROLINA**—1) Pushed and won approval at Annual Conference for legislation that the Committee on Nominations be studied to determine how to bring a wider range of people to Conference leadership, and 2) that expenses for hiring a sitter for a child, handicapped person, or older adult who is incapacitated be authorized as part of the meeting expenses of a Conference board or agency, effective in 1981. CSRW has been trying since 1975 to get legislation allowing payment of child care expenses. "This year we won," reports CSRW Chairperson Beth Glass. "Perseverance does pay off."
- ♀ **WISCONSIN**—Pastors School for 1981 will focus on "The Changing Roles of Men and Women in the Church;" CSRW has been invited to share suggestions for leadership and/or study focus. Inclusive Church Workshop, also dealing with changing roles of men and women in the church, may be planned for laypersons following the pastors' school. Commission members are including material in conference monthly mailings to pastors and church leaders. (?) Priority for 1980 will be working with the conference UMW; the two groups are working together on a directory of names of women who would like to serve on District or Conference Boards and Agencies. The listing will be made available to nominating committees.

Support is being sought for Sr. Thersa M. Kane who so courageously addressed Pope John Paul II at the Washington Shrine on the need for full participation of women in the Catholic Church. Sr. Kane's order has publically accused her of being impertinent. The Massachusetts COSROW has sent a letter to Sr. Kane expressing support. Letters should be sent to Sr. Thersa M. Kane, 1000 Kentsdale Dr., Potomac, MD 20854. Copies should be sent to the Apostolic Delegate, Msgr. Jean Jadot, 3339 Massachusetts, NW, Washington, DC 20008 and to the Leadership of the Conference of Women Religious, Sister Laura Ann Quinones, Director, Suite 701, 1302 18th St., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Letters of support are also sought for Sonia Johnson, head of the Mormons for the Equal Rights Amendment, who has been excommunicated for her support of the amendment. The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints opposes the proposed ERA. Johnson, a fifth generation Mormon, is appealing the ruling, but has little hope of success. Her response to the ruling of the three-man bishop's court held in her local church in Sterling, VA: "My word, how can you call yourself a Christian and not believe and not work for equality of all people?" Letters of support should be sent to Sonia Johnson, Rt. 2, Box 233, Sterling, VA 22170.

### Did you know?

Thirty-five major magazines joined together in publishing articles on the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) in their November issues. For the second time (the first was in July, 1976 when 34 magazines devoted space to the ERA) magazines set aside their normal competitiveness to join the campaign to ratify the ERA. ERA supporters are urged to write letters to the editors. Be short and to the point. Praise the article and give facts and back-up for any point you make. A list of editors and magazines participating in the ERA publishing project is available from ERAmerica, 1525 M. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005.

THE FLYER, named after the Commission's butterfly symbol, is published as a communications link with the Annual Conference Commissions. Items for possible insert should be sent—by the 20th of the month preceding publication—to THE FLYER, c/o the Commission office. No permission is needed to reprint; a credit line is requested. Annual Conference Commission members should send address changes to their chairpersons, not to the Commission office.

Next issue: February 29, 1980

Patricia Broughton, Ed.

# OPEN LETTER TO FLYER READERS FROM GCSRW PRESIDENT

Dear friends,

Among the many issues that will form the agenda for the coming General Conference are two that are of special interest to the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women. The support of Annual Conference Commissions and other concerned persons will be vital to their positive treatment by the General Conference.

As you probably know, the commission has developed a model of staffing called the Executive Secretariat. Three women, co-equal, with individual portfolios, comprise the Executive Secretariat. Each serves as coordinator in turn, for six months at a time.

The varied assignments of the members of the Executive Secretariat take them into separate arenas, except for the Commission's own meetings and several other strategic gatherings each year which require the presence of all three in order to provide a compensatory presence of women and/or mutual support and special expertise.

An independent consultant who has worked with the secretariat wrote in evaluation that the model "provides for maximum commitment, flexibility of work loads, opportunity for negotiation when difficulties arise, and ultimate stability and productivity." The Commission's own evaluation has found the model to be strong and collegial. This staffing style enables the work of the Commission.

My own understanding is that this model reflects the efforts of women to express alternate ways of relating that will make the system more human. This alternative to hierarchical staffing patterns is one of the most important contributions the Commission is making to the church.

For us to retain this model, the *Discipline* must provide permissive legislation. The Legislative Writing Team of GCSRW has made specific recommendations to ensure this possibility and will forward them to the General Conference. Your support through the petitions process could be helpful as the legislative committees deliberate these matters in Indianapolis.

The Nov. 30 issues of "The Flyer" contained the text of our petition to General Conference for a study on language about God. Please study the proposal, and if, as Annual Conference Commissions and/or concerned individuals, you can send supporting petitions to General Conference, we invite you to do so.

The introductory statement to the petition says in part: "The way we use language influences our perceptions of ourselves and our beliefs about God." With that understanding, we will be petitioning the General Conference to study language about God. Other demonstrations have already done so and can provide material for our own study.

The General Commission is available for further information on these issues. We move toward General Conference with the hope that decisions will be made which will increase the quantity and quality of the participation of women in the United Methodist Church.

Sincerely,  
Carolyn Oehler

2. Supportive petitions for the following legislation sponsored/supported by the General Commission would be appreciated:

- a) Par. 2104—Amend present legislation to provide "The Commission shall elect an Executive Secretary or Secretariat" (Presently the GCOM elects all general and executive secretaries/secretariat upon nomination of agencies).
- b) Par. 812 and 1005.20—Amend the present legislation to provide for GCOM to receive the report of election of general and executive secretaries/secretariat by agencies.
- c) Par. 802.7—Amend present legislation to provide that "unless otherwise provided by the legislation of an agency," staff titles will be as identified in Par. 802.7.
- d) Par. 804.—Legislation is being proposed to change the profile of representation on general program boards in order to have one member from each annual conference on each board. In whatever pattern of representation is determined at the General Conference it will be very important to maintain the 1/3 laymen, 1/3 laywomen, 1/3 clergy (with at least one clergy from each Jurisdiction being a woman) and provisions for racial/ethnic minority persons in both the basic and additional membership.

3. Those persons from annual conference commissions who will be coming to General Conference for all or part of the conference could be of assistance in a variety of ways. It would be helpful to know in advance who is coming and for what period of time. Send that information as soon as available to: The Executive Secretariat 1200 Davis Street, Evanston, IL 60201.

## GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING A PETITION

Any organization, minister, or lay person who is a member of the United Methodist Church may petition the General Conference by sending the petition to the Secretary of the General Conference not later than 45 days before the opening session of General Conference. The deadline for the 1980 General Conference is March 1, 1980. A petition should be prepared in the following manner:

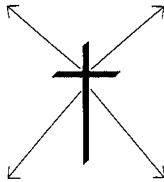
- 1. THE HEADING: "To the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Rev. Newell P. Knudson, Secretary, Post Office Box 5098, Eureka, California, 95501"
- 2. THE BODY: Here state your proposition as clearly and concisely as possible, and propose the course of action which you wish the General Conference to take. Each petition must deal with ONLY one subject. If your petition is concerned with specific wording of the Discipline, show how it should be amended, whether by adding or deleting material. Then show how the amended paragraph should read, in context, underlining new or changed wording. Identify material to be amended by paragraph and line within the paragraph.
- 3. IDENTITY OF PETITIONER: Give the name of the petitioner and show whether petitioner is clergy, lay or an organization. If clergy, show conference membership. If lay, give complete name and address of the church of which you are a member. If the petition comes from an organization, indicate the vote, i.e.,

YES \_\_\_\_\_  
NO \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSTAIN \_\_\_\_\_

## SUPPORTIVE PETITIONS SOUGHT

There are at least three ways in which annual conference COSROWs and other supporters can be helpful.

- 1. Between now and April 15, 1980, delegations will be meeting to orient themselves to the issues. COSROW persons may want to ask for a time on the agenda to resource the delegation on issues of concern to women.



The Church is the Body of Christ, gathering to hear the Good News of the Gospel and going forth to witness and to serve in a hungry and hurting world. Through worship, support and celebration the church equips its members to live out the mission and ministry in the local community, across the nation and around the globe.

The United Methodist Church, through its quadrennial GENERAL CONFERENCE, organizes its life to faithfully and effectively respond to the signs of the times in which it lives with the Gospel Message.



The 1972 General Conference established a new structure with four PROGRAM BOARDS. Each has specialized functions, as complementary parts of the total mission of the church.

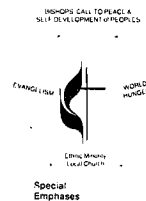
- OUTREACH — Board of Global Ministries
- VOCATION — Board of Higher Education and Ministry
- ADVOCACY — Board of Church and Society
- NURTURE — Board of Discipleship

Two COUNCILS for ADMINISTRATION were created in 1972 to oversee fiscal and programmatic accountability. *The General Council on Ministries* evaluates and coordinates the work of the program agencies and determines priorities between sessions of General Conference. *The Council on Finance and Administration* receives and distributes the general funds of the church and ensures good stewardship and sound investments.



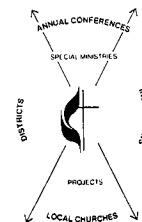
Three agencies provide specialized SERVICES to the denomination. *The Board of Publication* creates policy for the United Methodist Publishing House which resources the church with curriculum, books and journals. *United Methodist Communications* interprets and promotes the program of the church through news services, print and audiovisual media. *The Board of Pensions* manages investments to underwrite and administer the pension program of the church.

*The Council of Bishops* is charged with GENERAL SUPERINTENDENCY of the temporal and spiritual matters for the church. They facilitate structures and strategies to equip Christians for service. *The Judicial Council* the elected JUDICIARY determines the constitutionality of actions, proposed legislation or other legalities in addition to hearing appeals for correct interpretation of the *Discipline*.



SPECIAL EMPHASES are authorized by the General Conference to identify more clearly the support of special needs. Among those are the Bishops' Call to Peace and Self Development of Peoples in 1973-76, and the three missional priorities — World Hunger, Evangelism, and the Ethnic Minority Local Church — during 1977-80.

All of the structures at the general level provide resources and support to those engaged in the day-to-day interaction with the hungry world whether in local, district, conference or special settings. Institutions, missions and other special projects are understood to be integral parts of the church's ministry.



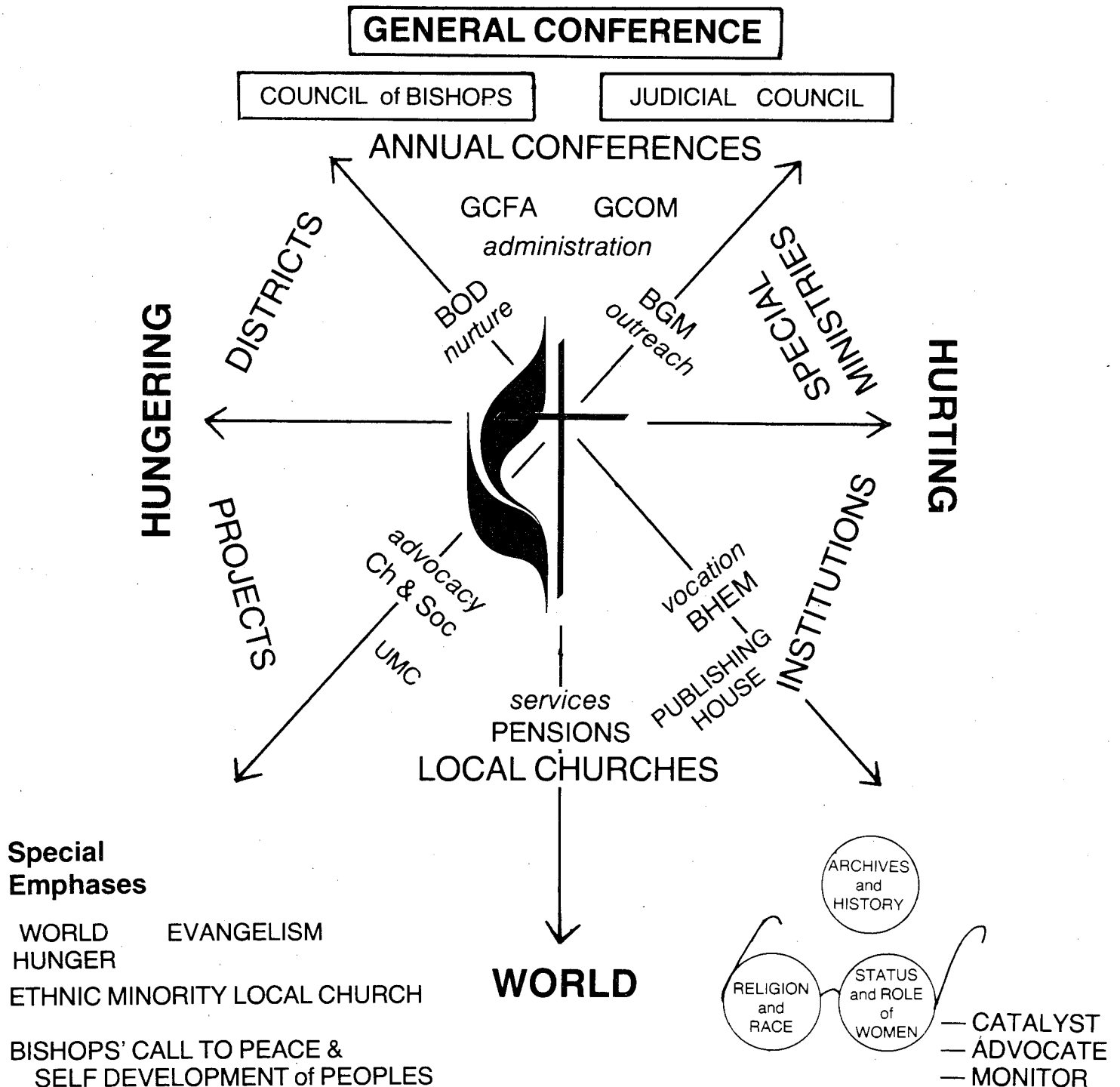
THE COMMISSION ON ARCHIVES AND HISTORY gathers, preserves, supervises and orders the historical records of The United Methodist Church and its antecedents. It maintains libraries and archives and gives guidance in others' creation and preservation of records.



Two commissions have been established to ensure participation in the church of constituencies who have been historically unrepresented or underrepresented. The *COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE* advocates inclusiveness for all racial ethnic minority persons, The *COMMISSION ON STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN* serves as advocate, catalyst and monitor on behalf of women's full participation in decision making at every level of the church.

These two commissions are authorized to negotiate with all other structures of the church on behalf of inclusiveness for all God's people. Like a pair of corrective lenses — a color correction and a shape correction — they work to perfect the vision of the church.

## MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## SELECTED RESOURCES

*The Biblical/Theological Task Force of the Commission on the Status and Role of Women is developing an annotated bibliography, including book reviews and other resources. Each issue of THE FLYER includes a current listing from the bibliography. If you know of resources that should be shared with our readers, send the information to Nelia J. Kimbrough, 429 Adams Avenue, Evansville, IN 47713. These books were reviewed by Nelia Kimbrough.*

### **THE MERMAID AND THE MINOTAUR: ARRANGEMENTS AND HUMAN MALAISE.**

Dorothy Dinnerstein. *The Mermaid and the Minotaur* is a revolutionary book that dares to address the question: What is the basis for continued disharmony between women and men? Dorothy Dinnerstein's response to the question is both simple and complex: Much of our social and psychological malaise is related to the fact that women almost universally provide care for infants and children. The complexity of the book speaks symbolically for the important ramifications that Dinnerstein explores in this relationship. The book is not a tirade against men. Rather it is an invitation for both men and women to look seriously at the way in which we all continue to support a system that is maladaptive and life-threatening to humanity. Dinnerstein brings an interdisciplinary approach to the book that provides a helpful sounding board for those of us who struggle with theological questions. *Mermaid and Minotaur* is a rich and provocative book that will hopefully engage us in discussion and reflection for some time. It is excellent study material for groups. It is published by Harper Colophon Books in paperback.

### **GOD AND THE RHETORIC OF SEXUALITY: OVERTURES TO BIBLICAL THEOLOGY.**

Phyllis Trible. The work of Phyllis Trible in Old Testament studies is well known to both feminists and Biblical scholars. *God and the Rhetoric of Sexuality* is her best work to date. The author pursues a familiar question for women: Is the Old Testament material entirely patriarchal? In answering the question, *God and the Rhetoric of Sexuality* points to understandings of God and humanity that value female images without denying that the Old Testament is a product of a patriarchal culture. Trible's consideration of the Old Testament material as a literary creation provides fresh insights into passages that have traditionally been troublesome for women. The presentation of the metaphor of the womb as a symbol of God's compassion, the Song of Songs as a story of "A Love Gone Awry," and the conclusion of the book with a chapter on Ruth as "A Human Comedy" gives rich theological perspectives from which to approach the Old Testament material. Published by Fortress Press in paperback.

### **TOWARD MORE INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE IN THE WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH.**

Position statement prepared by the Community Council of Wesley Theological Seminar calls Christians to eliminate language that excludes women in order to alter attitudes about human equality and opportunity. Text discusses inclusive language in sermons and liturgical materials, in hymns, in literary sources other than Scripture and in Scripture. Inclusive language in relation to human beings, abstract entities and God is offered with examples. Good summary of the theological necessity for language change; suggested bibliography of articles and books dealing with language. Order copies from Bookstore, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C. 20016. Price 25¢ each, 10 for \$1.50, 100 for \$12.50.

### **THE FUTURE OF PARTNERSHIP.**

Well-known feminist theologian Letty M. Russell discusses relationships between women and men and between people and God in terms of partnership in this, her latest book. She deals not only with the theological foundations of partnership, but also with the practical concerns of life-styles, marriage, sexuality, community life, education and ministry. Russell, an assistant professor of theology at Yale University Divinity School, is the author of the popular book: "Human Liberation in a Feminist Perspective — a Theology." As editor of "The Liberating Word," a guide to non-sexist interpretation of the Bible, she collected essays written by women who are Biblical scholars, theologians and church leaders. Books are available from The Westminster Press, 905 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, PA 19107, for \$6.96—"Future of Partnership," \$4.45—"Human Liberation," and \$3.95—"The Liberating Word."

### **DAUGHTERS OF SARAH.**

A Christian feminist magazine published by Biblical feminists sharing their discoveries, struggles and growth as Christian women. Members are committed to Scriptures and seek to find in it meaning for their lives. The last four issues have covered mothering, fathering, women in history, and black women-white women. November-December issue looks at consumerism. Six issues yearly, \$4. Write Daughters of Sarah, 4011 N. Avers, Chicago, Illinois 60618.

### **ONE PAGE BULLETIN INSERTS.**

Available with a full color picture of the closing worship at the 1979 Consultation of United Methodist Clergywomen. The brief text on the back is printed in either Spanish "Compartiendo Dones de Hermanas" or English "Sharing Gifts of Sisterhood". Quantities available free from: United Methodist Communications, 1200 Davis St. Evanston, IL 60201. Still available from an earlier set of inserts in both languages is "Abriendo Ojos Y Mentes", "Opening Eyes and Minds."

### **LIVING INTO FUTURE ENVIRONMENTS WORKSHOPS FOR ORGANIZING RESOURCES, KNOWLEDGE, STRATEGIES.**

Offering workshops for SELF ASSESSMENT values, motivations, skills, lifesetting; GOAL SETTING immediate and long range, career development and personal; STRATEGIES to achieve goals, understanding systems, management of time. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Rev. Kathy Nickerson, B-8 Apt. 6, Slocum Hts., Syracuse NY 13210 (315) 446-4897.

### **BOOKLET FROM THE CONSULTATION OF ETHNIC MINORITY WOMEN IN MINISTRY.**

Pictures and commentary of the consultation, held in April, 1978, are included in the booklet, available for \$3 from Professional Church Leadership, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 770, New York, NY 10027. The platform addresses, as well as recommendations which came out of the meeting, are also available (\$1.50 for addresses, recommendations free).

## CONFERENCE CLERGYWOMEN MEET TO EXPLORE EXPECTATIONS

In 1976 the Western Jurisdictional Conference provided funds to build a support system for clergywomen. The funds were stretched to provide two events: A Jurisdictional convocation in 1978 and individual conference consultations in 1979. Nancy Grissom Self, member of the Executive Secretariat, was asked to itinerate among five of the seven conferences to facilitate a sharing of expectations and concerns.

While many of the needs were personal, many were also political. "How do I survive in the system?" "How do I impact legislation?" "How can I best lobby for concerns—as clergy, as delegate, as a concerned church person?"

In sharing these "Expectation Inventories" we invite

\* General Conference delegates to know the concerns of clergywomen and to celebrate and claim their gifts,

\* Church structures to responsibly and with accountability deal with these very specific, concrete concerns,

\* Annual Conference COSROWs to use the questions and process as a model for finding out the needs and concerns of clergywomen in their conference,

\* Clergywomen to ask for and get similar support from their Jurisdictions and sisters.

The questions and expectations follow:

1. What do I expect of this day together?
  - Sharing: concerns of the local church, friendship, stories and visions,
  - Strength: for ministry, in the midst of multiple expectations, for flickering faith
  - Solutions/strategies/models/tools for survival
  - Support: in growing numbers and diversity,
  - Exorcism: of the horizontal violence among us, of fear and pressure
2. What do I expect of my sister colleagues today?
  - Sharing: support and resources
  - Honesty/vulnerability/confrontation/a willingness to be openly critical
  - Freedom and acceptance, healing and affirmation
3. In an ongoing way? (from my sister colleagues)
  - New models of ministry
  - Resources
  - COMMUNICATION/networks
  - Annual Conference support/coordination
4. What do I expect of the facilitator?
  - Resources
  - Direction for our energy, from other conferences
  - Insights, broader perspectives
  - Love, entertainment, information, the right questions, AND when and how to say NO without guilt
5. What do I expect from the Conference? (the Annual Conference)
  - Recognition of the gifts and needs of clergywomen: appointments, financial aid/support,
  - Responsibility for confronting sexism
  - Accountability
6. What do I expect of God in this process?
  - HELP! guidance
  - Patience
  - Assurance of things to come/hope
  - Power to persevere in reconciliation/graciousness in dealing with persons
  - Vision/healing/Grace/miracles



Present were (front row, l.to r.) Alice McKee, RM Conference COSROW president; Marilyn Lesser; Lois Strohmeier; Nancy Self; Bonnie L. Benda and Wesla Fletcher. (Back row) Christine Monro, Eugenia Butler, Patricia Vick, Maryann Downs, Margaret Rush, Janet Sumner and Jean H. Stiner. (Photo courtesy of Rocky Mountain United Methodist Reporter).

### GCSRW MEETING, FROM PG. 1

clusiveness issues for women. Much of the February meeting will be spent preparing for General Conference, Oehler said.

The steering committee also heard reports on personnel policies of general agencies and suggested clarifications to be forwarded to the agencies. Reviewed and accepted was the agency's report to the General Conference, including summaries of research data collected over the past year.

### CAUCUS, FROM PG. 1

delegates and electing a woman bishop of the United Methodist Church are the two others.

"It is important for women in the UM Church that the Commission exist," Garrison states. "Only the commission monitors our church with regard to treatment of women. Under its guidance strides have been made in the past eight years. However, we have not reached a state of equality yet. It is important the Commission exist and be autonomous so it can fulfill its responsibility to advocate and to monitor on all levels of the church. It needs to be a resource for Annual Conference COSROWs in learning more effective ways of advocacy and monitoring."

The Rev. Dr. Swank Matthews of the West Michigan conference is the favored candidate of the NC Jurisdiction Women's Caucus, which through formation of the Caucus is urging support for her and other female candidates. (The NC Caucus will form a steering committee and provide a small amount of seed money for the national caucus, Garrison said.)

"To state clearly," Garrison says, "now is the time for women to be elected bishops of the United Methodist Church."

Lobbying for Matthews and other female episcopal candidates, publishing a news sheet on women's issues, and keeping in touch with legislation and delegations will be among the work of the National Women's Caucus at General Conference.

The Caucus is hoping to work with other special interest groups, including the Coalition for a Whole Gospel and Black Methodists for Church Renewal.

Tentative plans call for a meeting of the Caucus at Cincinnati during the "Women in New Worlds" Conference. Membership will be dues, with the initial fee \$5. Clergy or lay women interested in being part of the Caucus should contact Rev. Peggy Garrison (W. Ohio Conference), 649 S. Jefferson, Delphos, OH 45833 (419) 692-9526 OR Rev. Sue Ralph (E. Ohio Conference), 785 S. Main St., Akron, OH (216)—434-0110.

**CORRECTION**—The chart on page 3 of the November Flyer summarizing women delegates to jurisdictional conferences incorrectly indicated no clergywomen in 1972. One clergywoman jurisdictional delegate, the Rev. Sue Ralph (EO/NCJ), was elected. In 1964 the Rev. Jeanne Audrey Powers (MN/NCJ) was the only other clergywoman ever to serve as a jurisdictional delegate.

# OVATIONS



To RHODA STOCKWELL who resigned as COSROW's office secretary after 18 months to accompany her husband, Foster to his new job in San Francisco. At the September meeting the Commission gave her a send off to her new post in the office staff of California-Nevada Conference headquarters. She will be sorely missed at 1200 Davis Street!

To MARILOU BONHAM THOMPSON, former CSRW chairperson of the Memphis conference and frequent contributor to church periodicals, for the publication of her first book, poetry, by St. Luke's Press of Memphis. Her book is entitled "Abiding Appalachia—Where Mountain and Atom Meet".

To BARBARA GRUMBACH WHEELER, named first full-time president of Auburn Seminary (New York City). Ms. Wheeler worked with the ecumenical campus ministry at Columbia University and as Director of the Women's Theological Coalition of the Boston Theological Institute.

To JUDITH ANN ELSWICK, news bureau editor for the University of Tulsa Department of University Relations, who has been hired as a staff writer for the Texas Methodist Reporter.

To MS. RUTH ROGERS, who completed her oral exam for her D. Min. at Chandler School of Theology on her 74th birthday!

## COMMISSION TALENT SCOUT

TO APPLICANTS AND EMPLOYERS: To inquire about openings, applicants should write directly to the employer listed, not to the Commission. Employers submitting listings are asked to send information—including application deadline and salary range—to the Executive Secretariat, CSRW—1200 Davis St., Evanston, IL 60201.

1. **THEOLOGIAN-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM OF THE WINDWARD COALITION OF CHURCHES:** Women and Religion, a taskforce of the Hawaii Council of Churches that sponsors the theologian-in-residence-program, is encouraging qualified women to apply. Roundtrip transportation for one, a furnished house and car are provided; no honorarium. Length of stay varies from two months for a full semester, approximately 20 hours per week. Contact: The Rev. Ford Coffman, Windward United Church of Christ, 38 Kaneohe Bay Drive, Kailua, HI 96734.

2. **DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY, DIVISION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, UMC:** Must be an ordained UM fully acquainted with the UM Church, having held positions of responsibility in campus ministry. Salary range: \$17,000-\$22,000. Letters of application should include a professional resume and names and addresses of references. Mail to Dr. Joe L. Gipson, Assistant General Secretary, Division of Higher Education, Board of Higher Education and Ministry, P.O. Box 871, Nashville, TN 37202.

## ON THE CALENDAR

February 14 **DEADLINE FOR SEMINARY CURRICULUM ESSAY CONTEST** Sponsored by the task force on theological education of the Commission on Women in Ministry, an ecumenical advocate, support and empowering group for women preparing for or involved in professional ministry. The essay contest, for current seminarians and seminary graduates, seeks 3,000 (or less) word papers in one of two areas: 1) Women as Change Agents in Theological Education 2) seminary curriculum which meets the needs of women students and prepares all students for an inclusive ministry. Essay contest winners (top ten) win a \$25 prize with the possibility of publication, and the task force discovers what's happening in theological education. Send essays to the Commission on Women in Ministry, c/o Rev. Dr. Emma Justes, Convenor, 9237 N. Kenton Avenue, Skokie, IL 60076.

February 14-17 **GENERAL COMMISSION ON THE STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN MEETING** At St. Benedict's center in Madison, Wisconsin.

February 22-24 **WOMEN, RELIGION & POLITICS** 8th Annual Women's Interseminary Conference at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Speakers: Beverly W. Harrison, Union Theological Seminary, NYC; Virginia Ramsey Mollenkott, author of "Women, Men and the Bible". Cost: \$30 including housing. Contact: Ruth M. Hankins, 7301 Germantown Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19119.

April 13-15 **WOMEN IN MINISTRY: GIVING AND RECEIVING PASTORAL CARE** St. Paul School of Theology, continuing education program led by Joan Hemenway, Clinical Pastoral Education Supervisor, The Hospital Chaplaincy, New York. Particular issues which may be addressed: pastoral identity, sexuality and ministry, power and anger—each seen in the light of Biblical and theological perspectives. Cost: \$45 plus \$37.50 for room and board. Contact: St. Paul School of Theology, Continuing Education, 5123 Truman Road, Kansas City, MO 64127.



**the commission on the status and role of women**  
the united methodist church

1200 davis street  
evanston, illinois 60201  
(312) 869-7330

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EVANSTON, ILL.  
PERMIT NO. 260

Committed to Christ-  
Called to Change