

A Word From Susie Stanley

Executive Director, WHWC, Intl.

It's that time in the conference cycle. Registrations are arriving in the WHWC office. Requests for brochures are coming in almost daily. Last month, someone asked for brochures in Spanish. Volunteers have translated the brochure so they are now available. That means we'll need Spanish speakers to volunteer to help with translation at the conference. Feel free to volunteer when you receive the volunteer form in your confirmation packet!

Promotional efforts are underway. We've provided ad copy to several magazines. New this conference is a poster we're distributing to Wesleyan/Holiness schools.

Whenever I have a chance to sit back and take a breath (not very often!), I'm amazed by the willingness of so many people to volunteer hours and hours of their time to make the conference a reality. The Planning Board donates eight days to attend meetings and prayerfully planning each conference. Then, they have to follow up by asking women to serve as preachers and workshop leaders who then agree to share their gifts. Please pray for them as they prepare to minister to those of us in attendance.

Volunteers perform all sorts of tasks. Persons who prepare the packets for participants provide an important service as do those in many other capacities.

A special thanks to everyone who is working hard to make the conference in San Diego the best ever! †

Mission Statement

"The mission of Wesleyan/ Holiness Women Clergy is to equip and encourage divinely-called women in vocational ministry and professional leadership positions."

Book Review

Point Loma Press and the Wesleyan Center at Point Loma Nazarene announce the release of a new book:

I Am Not Ashamed: Sermons by Wesleyan-Holiness Women
Ed., Diane Leclerc, (2005) ISBN 0-9754729-4-1

This collection of twenty-two sermons bears eloquent testimony to the women preachers in the Wesleyan/Holiness heritage. The book includes a helpful introduction to the historical roots of women preachers in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition, and the sermons clearly demonstrate the preaching gifts and graces of women who preach in the power of the Spirit.

- Preaching from the Past
- Preaching by Contemporary Women
- Preaching about Biblical Women
- Preaching through the Year

Dr. Janine Metcalf, pastor of the El Cajon Church of the Nazarene and active member of WHWC commented that, "This rich collection of anointed voices is a blessed offering to God, a gift to the Church, and an inspiration to the undeniable growing number of women called to preach the Gospel. I am humbled to share the pulpit with these past and present sisters. Their fresh insights reveal a sound reflection of Scripture coupled with divine unction. May these sermons not only remind us of a glorious heritage, but also of a God-ordained future in which ALL believers are encouraged to use their preaching and pasturing gifts to their fullest potential."

Copies of this book are available through Point Loma Press at Point Loma Nazarene University for \$19.95 through their web-site: www.ptloma.edu/wesleyan. †

2006

Come to the Water Conference

April 20-23, 2006

Theme: A Mosaic of Holy Love

If you would like to receive brochures or promotional post cards to distribute, please e-mail whwc@messiah.edu providing the number you would like and the address where they should be mailed.

A Spanish version of the conference brochure is now available.

Some of Our Best 'Men' are Women

by Dr. Fletcher Tink

“Some of our best ‘men’ are women,” or so said Dr. Sphineas F. Bresee, pivotal personality in the founding of the Church of the Nazarene a hundred years ago. Apparently, he wasn’t uptight about women in leadership, even in the crazed centers of the city where his deaconesses would roam. Furthermore, he dared start ordaining women for ministry throughout the world.

Apparently, women in ministry weren’t a big problem for Nazarenes in industrial Glasgow, Scotland, in the early 20th century where in 1912, according to the Dictionary of Scottish Church History and Theology, Rev Olive Winchester, an American was ordained, the first female to so receive ordination rites in Scotland in any denomination. Five years later, Rev. Jane Brayton Sharp was the first Scottish woman to be ordained, at the Parkhead Church where her husband served as founding pastor of British Isles Nazarene ministries. In turn, in 1924, their daughter, Agnes Kanema Hynd, wife of Dr. David Hynd, pioneer medical doctor to Swaziland, was the second to be so recognized.

The Bible doesn’t pull punches on exhibiting a wide range of women engaged in unusual ministries: Miriam (Ex. 15:2-21), Deborah (Judges 4:4-14); Ruth; Huldah (2 Kings 22:14-20), Esther; Anna (Luke 2:36-38), the woman at the well (John 4:7-29), Priscilla (in four references), Lydia (Acts 16:14-15, 40), Junia (Romans 16:7), Tryphena, Tryphosa and Persis (Romans 16:12). And Paul says about Phoebe whom he commends to the church in Rome, “Receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me” (Romans 16:2

I contend that the urban environment offers a supreme challenge for women. Let me offer several speculative reasons:

1. The suburban ministry world is skewed towards white males who aspire to the comforts and convenience of “arriving” at large, financially secure churches that mirror their own cultural orientation. Given the “old boy network,” there is a rash of urban male pastors that move on and out of the difficult city core, to options elsewhere, leaving ministry vacancies in older sections of the city. Women can fill the void.
2. An inordinate percentage of urban families are female-centered. Many of these families are church-involved. Female leadership both in the church and outside is given more credibility, and offers more rapport with the sociological realities of the inner city. A thousand storefront churches and beyond attest to the pervasive presence and power of women pastors.
3. Because women have frequently had to fight against the social currents to attain public responsibility, they

often show tenacity and courage to improvise ministry and operate “outside of the box” in ways that allow them to contextualize where funds and fame are lacking. Their success depends less on skeptical denominational support than on spiritual gifting and community awareness.

The Church of the Nazarene has opted out of many of our cities. Perhaps it will take a wave of women, anointed by God, either with or despite the Church, to march into, or emerge within, our cities, providing uncanny experience and skills to help bring redemption to those who so desperately need it. †

Dr. Nina G. Gunter

 – first woman to be elected to office of General Superintendent in the Church of the Nazarene

Dr. Nina G. Gunter is a general superintendent in the Church of the Nazarene with an office at the International Center of the denomination in Kansas City, Missouri. She was elected at the 26th General Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana, in June 2005, the first woman to be honored with the highest office

in the church. At the time of her election, she was serving as general director of Nazarene Missions International (NMI), a position she had held since 1986. During her tenure, she initiated many missions programs, and the annual giving to missions increased from approximately \$30 million to \$62 million. She is a respected leader, motivational speaker, and inspiring visionary. Dr. Gunter was also one of the founding board members for WHWC.

Dr. Gunter has her bachelor’s degree from Trevecca Nazarene University (TNU) in Nashville, Tennessee, and a master’s degree from the University of South Carolina in Columbia. An ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene, she served as co-pastor with her husband in Tennessee, Missouri, and South Carolina.

She was honored by TNU with a doctor of divinity degree, being the first woman to receive such recognition from the university. She is listed among Who’s Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities and Outstanding Young Women of America. She was elected by Trevecca alumni as the Ministerial Alumnus of the Year in 1990. She was named by Nazarene Bible College as the 2005 T. W. Willingham “Preacher of the Year.”

Dr. Gunter was called to preach at 14 years of age. Upon telling her pastor on Sunday night that she’d received a call to preach, he asked her to speak in the following church service. Thus began her many years of ministry.

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Dr. Gunter's wide experience in NMI has given a grassroots perspective. She served as NMI president for 15 years on the South Carolina District. In 1976, she was elected to the General NMI Council as representative for the Southeast Region, serving in that capacity for 9 years, whereupon she was elected general NMI director.

Among her writings are the following books: The Traveler's Psalm, Our Defining Moment, and Christian Perfection.

Dr. Gunter is married to Dr. D. Moody Gunter. They have two married sons, Dwight and Dwayne, and four grandchildren, all of whom serve the Lord in the Church of the Nazarene. Fishing is among Dr. Gunter's hobbies, when she takes time away from her busy schedule. †

Salierno Addresses Church of God Convention



Lori Salierno addressed the 2005 North American Convention of the Church of God Saturday night with a dynamic message on reaching the lost through remembering Christ's grace to us.

Grace is the free gift of God to us who are so undeserving, she said. Basing her sermon on 2 Corinthians

5:14-21, Salierno challenged the church to accept its calling to be ministers of reconciliation—reconciling humanity to God. "The body of Christ is the only place where the world can receive grace," she said, challenging the audience to stand by their convictions, but extend grace to those who fall short of God's plan. There are two kinds of people in this world, Salierno explained in her message, "Grace givers and grace killers. If we forget grace, there's no way we can reach the lost!"

Lori is an ordained minister of the Church of God, a well-known speaker, and CEO of Celebrate Life International.

**Used with permission from Church of God web site, www.chog.org. †

WHWC List Serve

How to Become a WHWC List Serv Member

To subscribe, send an email message to:
listserv@listserv.messiah.edu

Which states in the body of the email: Subscribe WHWC enter your name here

After you are a member, you will send messages to the entire list at WHWC@listserv.edu

If you have announcements, news, articles or any other information you'd like to be included in this newsletter, please contact the editor, Pamela Connolly, at pam@marysvillenazarene.org.

Ministry Spotlight

Major Mariam M. Rudd

DDWM/Officer Development Secretary
The Salvation Army
Alaska Divisional Headquarters



I consider it an honor and privilege to serve as the Divisional Director of Women's Ministries and Officer Development Secretary in the Alaska Division. When my husband and I were assigned here 3 1/2 years ago, I was naive concerning the extent of my responsibilities. I had never traveled by float plane or snowmobile; I had never lived where it was light until 12:00 midnight in the summer or dark until 10:30 a.m. in the winter, I have never been without the care of a doctor or dentist. I was truly in a new land!

My primary ministry responsibility is to support, encourage, and build close relationships with my women ministry colleagues throughout Alaska, electronically, and frequently through acts of practical service—like securing medications, resources materials, arranging Doctor visits and transportation. Often, when I travel to our Corps locations, I bring with me needed supplies and sometimes food items that are either too expensive or not available. I recall one opportunity recently when I purchased and delivered Ensure to a young mother whose preschool child needed the extra nutritional supplement in order to stay healthy. During our visits with our officers, we stay in their homes which provides us an opportunity to pray, weep, laugh, and play together, just like real families.

Other areas in my portfolio are: overseeing ministries, ombudsman responsibilities, special offering development support, guiding and encouraging the ministry groups (Women's Auxiliary and W.A.V.) which conduct special programs, assisting my husband in the process of spiritual nurture for officers, serving on the Divisional Finance Council, participating in annual evaluation of congregations, and overseeing the hospitality planning for DHQ, Officer Councils and Roundtables and divisional events.

Whether in Alaska or serving "outside," significant ministry can happen when one makes themselves available to the Holy Spirit and overcomes the temptation, by conscious choice, the limiting of our responses to human need. †

Take a Look at the WHWC Website!

www.messiah.edu/WHWC

It's filled with resources you will find helpful!

- 2006 Come to the Water conference brochure
- texts of over 70 articles on women in ministry by Wesleyan/Holiness authors
- picture gallery of women preachers in the Wesleyan/Holiness tradition

Wesleyan/Holiness Women Clergy International Membership 2006–2008

Name _____

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Business Phone (____) _____ Email Address _____

Denomination/Organization _____

\$25.00 Membership \$15.00 Student/Senior (over 55) Contribution

I request scholarship assistance to pay for my membership dues. (Please pay what you can.)

Your membership card will be sent to the above address, unless otherwise specified. Mail this form and your check (made out to WHWC) to: Major Donna Hurula, The Salvation Army National Headquarters, 615 Slaters Lane. P.O. Box 269, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Please encourage others to join by sending a copy of this form. Thank you.



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